MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

AGRICULTURE · HORTICULTURE · RURAL LIFE · EXCELSIOR · LITERATURE · SCIENCE · ARTS · NEWS

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
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AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

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AGRICULTURAL.

THE DAIRY.—No. VII.

CHEESE.

THE consumption of cheese is large in all the temperate regions. Especially is it so in the United States, but, perhaps, larger in proportion to population in England than in any other nation. At all times it forms an important item in the diet of the operatives in the manufacturing districts, but when beef and bread are dear, cheese enters more extensively into consumption than when cheap.

When we come to consider that the nutriment contained in a pound of cheese is nearly, or quite, equal to that in a pound of beef, we can well see why the operative, who is compelled to live as cheaply as possible, finds his cheapest dinner in a pot of beer, a slice of cheese, and a penny roll, or loaf of bread. Prof. JOHNSTON gives a table of the nutritive matter contained in Cheddar and skim milk cheese dried, and beef and eggs, also dried.

NUTRITIVE MATTER.

Eggs,	0.05	per cent.
Beef,	0.96	"
Skim milk cheese,	0.91	"
Cheddar cheese,	0.93	"

By which it appears that if a man cannot get a beefsteak, he need not starve on a good Welsh rarebit, and that a skim milk cheese is not to be despised by a hungry man.

To make a cheese is not a very intricate piece of business, but to make a good cheese is quite another thing. The first requisite for a satisfactory result is a good cheese-room, to which the manufacturing operatives should be attached. It should be well ventilated and so arranged as to command a uniform temperature of about 75 degrees. It should have a northern exposure, with long, narrow windows. The shelves should be in the center and not around the walls, as is usually the case. Such an arrangement facilitates the curing and handling. The implements are, a good thermometer, a patent cheese vat, with the heater attached, curd-cutter, presses, and hoops.

The Cheese Vat is indispensable to every dairyman, and it is so cheap and desirable that no man who regards his true interests will try to get along without one. The best I have ever seen is ROE's Western Reserve Cheese Vat, manufactured at Madison, Lake Co., O., and at Watertown, in this State. I have used that kind for more than a year. It is cheaper than any other arrangement, and within the reach of the smallest cheese dairies. I commenced with a No. 1, which has a capacity of 56 gallons, and am now using a No. 5, which holds 145 gallons.

The best press, as well as the cheapest, I have found in the shape of portable cider mills. I am using one with a screw at each end, and it is very compact and powerful. I bought of CHAS. E. PEASE, of Albany, two of his largest size screws for portable cider mills, all complete, and built my own press. I have seen nothing in the way of presses among the dairies which will compare with them, for simplicity and durability, or power. The testimony of some of the best cheese-makers in the Union is that cheese cannot be pressed too hard, and this makes a simple screw press the most desirable. These presses are so constructed as to ensure direct and square pressure upon the cheese, and it comes from the press of a true shape.

In the immediate process of manufacture, the rennet is the most important agent. Many modes are adopted in saving the rennets; any that will keep them sweet is good; but the best I have used were emptied as soon as taken from the calf, filled with salt, blown up like a bladder, and hung up in a good place where they would dry rapidly and thoroughly. They should be kept till a year old before using.

In preparing the rennet for use, Mr. A. L. FISH, of Herkimer county, who has done, perhaps, more than any other man in the State, to reduce cheese-making to a system, gives the following directions in the *Transactions of the N. Y. Ag. Society for* 1859:—"Calves' rennets only are used after being kept dry one year. Soak in half a gallon of soft water to each, and rubbed often in the course of twelve hours, then changed to the same quantity of new water and treated as before, then taken out, both liquors put together, and made as salt as can be, strained, skimmed, and put into a jar for use. By stirring before using each time, a uniform strength may be relied upon daily, of sweet, sharp rennet; and if beat is properly applied, there will be no trouble of cloth sticking to cheese when all are kept sweet."

Another directs to "take four rennets, soak in one gallon warm water or sweet whey, for 24 hours, then rub them thoroughly and strain the liquid into a stone jar that will hold at least two gallons, then add two quarts of water or sweet whey, and a handful of salt, and again soak, rub and strain off the liquid, as before, into the same jar. Do the same the third day, which will give two gallons of rennet, a teacupful of which will be sufficient to coagulate 70 gallons of milk in from 45 to 60 minutes. This liquid should be kept well salted, and a good supply of undissolved salt should be kept at all times in the bottom of the jar, and be stirred daily before dipping off."

Some recommend to put one lemon to two rennets tied up in a bag with sage, cloves, and cinnamon. It may do no harm, but the great secret in regard to rennet is undoubtedly in having it always sweet, and indeed *sweet* is the word for every thing connected with successful cheese-making.

Before applying the rennet, the milk should be brought to the temperature of from 84° to 90° Farenheit,—85° to the most usual, though, in cold weather, it will be best to raise it to 90°. Mr. FISH recommends 90°. He also used "one gallon of sour whey with the rennet liquor to curdle milk for 100 pounds cheese in 40 minutes. It is found by adding sour whey with rennet, to set curd, that it facilitates the effect of the rennet, and prevents cheese from puffing without reducing the weight of cheese from a given amount of milk, as when allowed to become acidulated from other causes."

We follow Mr. FISH, who lets his milk stand an hour after putting in the rennet:—"The curd is then subdivided by passing a gang of knives through it in various directions, to cut it into lumps one-quarter of an inch square. If properly done, no more breaking is needed. A gentle motion by stirring the mass is required to prevent a reunion of particles. Heat is raised slowly, usually about one hour bringing it to 100°, which is the maximum. It is held at that point till curd appears sufficiently cooked, which varies from one to two hours. When curd is so cooked as to spring apart elastic, when pressed in the hand, or squeaks well when pressed against the front teeth, it is sufficiently cooked. The whey is then drained off and pressed out by the hands, as much as possible, and one pound of Liverpool ground salt added to forty pounds of curd, well worked in, and put to press warm, as the whey will press out better than when left to get cold, pressed with two tons weight six hours, then turned into clean cloth and pressed twelve hours, and taken from the hoop. When dry, a coat of hot oil of whey butter rubbed over to keep the rind smooth and from cracking, and turned and rubbed daily. Temperature of cheese-room kept as near 70° as possible. A little coloring is used at a season when needed, by rubbing a cloth or small bag, containing a lump of annatto, in the liquor containing the rennet, so that it is incorporated with the milk. When milk is rich enough to make curd a cream-color, and cheese a butter-color, no annatto is used."

In no one thing is there so great a diversity of opinion and practice as the heat required to cook the curd. In consulting the statements of over one hundred among our best dairymen, I find the range from 100°, as stated by Mr. FISH, to 140° as practiced in another good dairy. These are the extremes. A large majority range from 105° to 116°,—110° being the favorite point.

After the cooking, the curd is salted before being put into the hoop to press. Here, again, is a diversity of opinion, and a great deal of guess-work. Some use so many teacupfuls to a certain quantity of curd, all guessed at, others more, and others less, and some have an exact rule. If the curd be in such a state of dryness as that not more than three or four quarts of whey will drain from the curd of a cheese weighing 60 pounds when fully pressed, then at the rate of two and a half pounds to the hundred will be sufficient, if well incorporated. I am using the "Factory Filled," made at Syracuse, and find it by far the best salt for dairy purposes of any that has yet been brought into market. A good rule, from the *Country Gentleman*, to find the quantity of salt for a given quantity of milk, is to multiply the gallons of milk by eight, and that product by three, and point off three figures from the right hand. The answer will be pounds and decimals of a pound. Multiply the decimals by sixteen and it will give the ounces. Thus: given, 50 gallons of milk:—50 × 8 = 400 × 3 = 1.200, or one pound and two-tenths; multiply the .200 by 16 = 3.200 or three ounces and a fraction. So the quantity of salt for the curd of fifty gallons of milk would be nineteen ounces, or one pound three ounces.

Great care must be used to keep the milk sweet, as well as all the utensils used in the dairy. Without this precaution, good cheese cannot be relied upon, indeed it cannot be made.

The quantity of milk to make a pound of well pressed cheese, fresh from the press, varies with the season, but the average for the year will be four quarts and two gills. The shrinkage is ten per cent. for the first thirty days, and about twenty per cent. for a year.

To make good cheese requires good, rich milk, good rennet, good implements, and plenty of care, judiciously bestowed: Without all these, a person had better not engage in the business.—P.

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EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE.

To Keep Fowls Free from Vermin.

THE *London Field* has an article on this subject, from the pen of JOHN DOUGLAS, professional breeder, from which we make the following brief extract. Mr. D. says:

"There are several kinds that infest the hen. By attending to the following remedy, they will be entirely kept clear. First of all, if in confinement in the dust corner of the poultry house, mix about half a pound of black sulphur among the sand and lime that they dust in. This will both keep them free from parasites, and give the feathers a glossy appearance. If infested with the insects, damp the skin under the feathers with a little water, then sprinkle a little black sulphur on the skin. Let a bird be covered with the insects, and they will disappear in the course of twelve hours. Also, previous to setting a hen, if the nest be slightly sprinkled with the sulphur, there is no fear of the hen being annoyed during incubation, neither will the chickens be annoyed by them. Many a fine hatched brood pines away and dies through nothing else, and no one knows the cause. Having had an ostrich under my care that was pining, I looked into his feathers and observed thousands of the parasites. I employed tobacco-water, also lime-water, under my then master's orders, to no effect. In his absence, I well damped him, and sprinkled him under the feathers with black sulphur, when next day they were examined with a microscope, and every one was dead. Having had some macaws, also parrots that were addicted to biting off their feathers, I employed the black sulphur by well syringing them with water, then sprinkling the sulphur over their skins. If tame, sponge the skins, then rub gently, with the points of the fingers, with the sulphur, every other day, for about a fortnight, when the parrot or macaw will cease to destroy his plumage. It is not a remedy which has not been proved, for I have used it these two years with success."

Sheep Husbandry—The Flock in Spring.

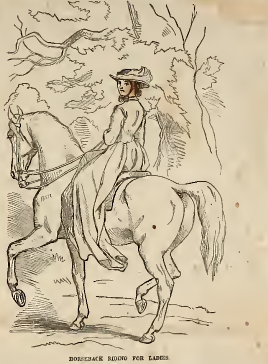
WE give an extract from the *Mark-lane Express* upon the general management of sheep in spring, but more particularly devoted to the care of breeding ewes and lambs. It is well worthy the attention of American sheep breeders:

"The lambing season being now for the most part over, the first thing I shall offer a remark or two upon is the subsequent management of the breeding flock. Now, this is a more important question than breeders in general are disposed to admit. The breeding flock is always the first to be made to 'make any shift,' if a difficulty arises in the amount and quality of the keeping. 'Oh, the old ewes must take their chance;' yes, a chance that very frequently produces deplorable results in the following winter. Depend upon it, if the lamb is not thoroughly reared in the summer, it cannot thrive through a precarious and severe winter; and if it fortunately should succeed in getting through its cold and storms, its constitution is frequently so impaired that it is unfit for profitable grazing or subsequent breeding.

"The ewes will still require for a considerable time their ration of cake, oats, or cut chaff, together with a moderate allowance of mangels, daily. This allowance to be gradually decreased as the pastures progress, but not to be wholly withheld, till the grass is plentiful and nutritive. It is highly desirable to continue the allowance of cut chaff or oats, or, if more convenient, by all means cake; for, bear in mind that a great thing to be aimed at, in sheep management, is the earliest possible maturity, and this can only be attained by good and liberal keeping. Never let them deteriorate in condition, and nothing conduces more to promote the healthy growth of the lamb than good oats or cake. The former is to be preferred, as aiding most in the proper formation of bone and healthiness of progress in the lamb, as also in the young sheep of the flock.

"If the pastures are very forward and fruitful, care should be taken not to turn thereon any but strong lambs; neither should the weaker ewes be permitted to go there, as the cold grass and cold rain incident to the early season may cause scouring. The change must be gradual for every weak animal, or much danger arises. Better to keep them on the barer pastures, or in the lambing field, enjoying their customary allowance, than to run any hazard in putting them on strong and, most probably at this time, purgative grasses. As the season advances, and the weather becomes warmer, they may be put on with safety. All that is required at this period is to 'clag them,' i. e., to clip off a small quantity of wool from the inside of the upper part of the thighs immediately and about the tail, so as to prevent accumulation of dirt in that region, which in 'fly time' is a great enticement to their nasty and prejudicial attacks. It is not in accordance with good management to 'lay them' on the pastures too thickly. Ewes, while suckling, always do best where they have plenty of room to rove about, and plenty of choice in their food to gather where they like. A mixture of store sheep, or fattening sheep, with them is best, and then not too numerously. There ought, in every pasture allotted to sheep, to be a few cattle depasturing in addition; they eat of certain coarse and stronger grasses, which tends to improve the pasture for sheep. In the course of a few weeks it behooves the breeder to look well to them, as it is most probable they will require a change; they are delicately feeding animals, and if they take a dislike to certain spots in the field, from one cause or another, they will not feed there, and the consequence often is, that other portions are fed off too closely, and a loss in condition takes place. In such case, and in similar ones, exchange of field with other sheep will generally prevent this, and cause the field to be more evenly grazed. Many of these minor matters, if properly attended to, avail much in promoting the prosperity of the breeding flock. A change from a good pasture to an inferior one is frequently attended with advantage, contradictory though it be.

"In the best managed flock it will frequently happen that lice, ticks, or scab may, unfortunately, intrude; and very annoying and trying it is, particularly the latter infection. In such cases, the breeder cannot be too cautious at this season. It is dangerous to use the common remedies. Arsenical mixtures, however diluted, are almost sure to have a fatal effect upon some of the suckling lambs, because if you apply the 'fagwater' never so carefully, the udder will be partially wetted; and then, should the lamb imbibe any quantity, it must receive injury and probably die. Should it, however, be found absolutely necessary to dress the ewes, the lambs should, at all events, be kept from them for a few hours. To resort to mercurial ointments in cases of that dire pest, scab, is a most hazardous experiment. The best way in such cases is, 'blotch them' till after clip day, or till weaning-time. By 'blotching' I mean to dress any affected part showing itself, with ointment, so as to keep the infection under till weaning time, when both ewes and lambs will require dressing. Happy is the breeder who misses the latter pest."



HORSEBACK RIDING FOR LADIES.

* * *

FEMALE EQUESTRIANISM.

IN some countries, especially in Great Britain, horseback riding forms a portion (not an unimportant one,) of the education of all boys and girls, when the finances of the family permit. In youth they learn to sit in the saddle gracefully, to manage a horse skillfully, and the boast of leaping fences, ditches, and water-courses unharmed, even when coming from the lips of those called the "weaker sex," is certainly harmless. This system has the countenance and approval of those high in authority, for it tends to the development of the physical organization. In our own country efforts have been made to render this mode of conveyance *fashionable*, and riding-schools have been started in the larger cities, for the purpose of instruction, but we believe nearly all have signally failed. While this has been the fate of the schools, we note with marked pleasure that the habit is growing among us, and believing the exercise to be healthful to both body and mind, purpose casting our vote in its favor, by giving a few lessons (on paper, of course,) to such of our lady readers as may choose to accept.

WILLIAM HENRY HERBERT has given it as his opinion, (and we do not know any one better qualified, or in whose views we would place more confidence in such matters,) that *every lady should learn to ride*. Her education should not be put off until mature age, either, when her frame has become exhausted by a sedentary life, and consequent ill-health; nor even when her school-days are over; but in childhood, when the will is strong, and her body obedient thereto. When the labor of the household is not dependent upon the female, and no opportunity is afforded her for out-door exercise, horseback riding is the best substitute. With the country girl the habit is indispensable. Not for health, perhaps, but her happiness. "No woman," says Mr. HERBERT, "ever rides so well as one who from childhood has loved her pet colt. She has chased him, perhaps, for hours around 'a ten-acre-lot;' and when, his frisky mood over, she has been able to take him coaxingly by the mane and lead him to a mounting place, great was the triumph of her wild ride. And no training or care can give the freedom and skill of this youthful practice. When, at length, she is able to bridle and saddle him, her seat may be somewhat faulty, and her use of the reins awkward, but these faults are easily remedied, and are certainly atoned for by her freedom and fearlessness. Besides, no one can fully enjoy riding, who does not both love and admire the noble animal which she rides; and the quick intelligence of the horse yields ready obedience to the hand and voice of a woman who has learned lovingly to control him. His affectionate nature yields to her the mastery often more readily than to a stronger power.

THE SIDESADDLE.—Many things are essential to insure ease, elegance, enjoyment, and safety in riding, and the great requisite is a properly constructed sidesaddle. The English editor of RAREY's *Art of Taming Horses* gives a description which is sensible, and to the point, and this we extract, as follows:

"Ladies' saddles ought invariably to be made with what is called the leaping-horn, or crutch, at the left side. The right-hand pommel has not yet gone out of fashion, but it is of no use, and is injurious to the security of the lady's seat, by preventing the right hand from being put down as low as it ought to be with a restive horse, and by encouraging the bad habit of leaning the right hand on it. A flat projection is sufficient. There is no danger in this side-pommel, since you cannot be thrown on it, and it renders it next to impossible that the rider should be thrown upon the other pommel. In case of a horse leaping suddenly into the air and coming down on all four feet, without the leaping-horn there is nothing to prevent a lady from being thrown up. But the leaping-horn holds down the left knee, and makes it a fulcrum to keep the right knee down in its proper place. If the horse in violent action throws himself suddenly to the left, the upper part of the rider's body will tend downwards, to the right, and the lower limbs to the left; nothing can prevent this but the support of the leaping-horn. The fear of overbalancing to the right causes many ladies to get into

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the bad habit of leaning over their saddles to the left. This fear disappears when the hunting-horn pommel is used. The leaping-horn is also of great use with a hard puller, or in riding down a steep place, for in either case it prevents the lady from sliding forward. But these advantages render the right-hand pommel quite useless, a slight projection being all sufficient; while this arrangement gives the habit and figure a much better appearance.

"When a timid, inexperienced lady has to ride a fiery horse, it is not a bad plan to attach a strap to the outside girth on the right hand, so that she may hold it and the right-hand rein at the same time without disturbing her seat. This little expedient gives confidence, and is particularly useful if a fresh horse should begin to kick a little. Of course, it is not to be continued, but only used to give the timid rider temporary assistance. I have also used for the same purpose a broad tape passed across the knees, and so fastened that in a fall of the horse it would give way. The prejudice of many American ladies, especially in the country, against the third horn of the saddle, is purely the result of habit. Having always been accustomed to the old style of saddle, they experience a restraint in the first use of the leaping-horn, which suggests a dangerous confinement of the limbs, and they seem to fear that they could not easily disengage themselves from it, in case of accident. This fear is groundless; they could, in no case, get off on the right side, and in dismounting to the left, the leg is simply lowered away from it, so that it can, in no sense, be considered an obstacle to jumping off from the horse. The mere fact that it prevents that worst of all accidents—being thrown on to the left horn in case of the horse falling—is an unanswerable argument in its favor, and no lady, who has become accustomed to its use, would be willing to dispense with it."

The Bridle.—The bridle should be constructed of pliant leather, plain, neat and simple,—ornamentation is utterly out of place. Where two reins are used, they should be made of different material so as to be easily distinguished.

The Bit.—Invention has presented many forms, but we give preference to either the "Pelham," or the bit and bridoon. Both of these are combinations of the snaffle and curb, and the latter, if sufficiently large, is elegant in appearance and very effective.

The Stirrup.—Among our American ladies it is customary to use the slipper-stirrup which has been almost discarded by their English cousins. English ladies use the open stirrup, and we consider for good reason. Except in very cold weather, the slipper possesses no advantage, and in warm weather is most uncomfortable.

The Whip.—Although the whip is an essential in ladies' riding, it is needless to say more than this,—it should be stiff and substantial, and yet not heavy.

The Dress.—Upon this portion of our subject a whole volume might be launched, and probably without effect, for woman will consult her own tastes and finances in the matter, however we may lay down a few general rules:

1st—Whatever be the fashion of the head-dress, *it should fit*. Nothing can be more aggravating than to be continually adjusting a bad-fitting riding-hat, especially when the hands could be better employed in handling the reins and whip. The hat should shade from the sun, and protect the neck from rain.

2d—The hair must be put up in the *firmest possible manner*. The mode of wearing it will be governed by the form of the hat, and the views of the lady respecting adaptation to features and circumstances. Loose, or flowing hair, should be avoided, except short, natural curls.

3d—With reference to the riding habit, we cannot do better than give the following extract from Herbert:—"Ladies' habits are usually made too long; if the extra length be turned to a heavy hem at the bottom, it will be found much more likely to stay well down over the feet, which is all that is required; weights are unnecessary and cumbersome. A foot longer than an ordinary skirt will be found sufficient, if the material be suitable. Light cloth will be found the most appropriate for the skirt, if the color be becoming and sufficiently dark. For country riding it may be bordered a foot deep with leather. A habit of the same should be worn in winter, adapted in shape to the figure of the lady. If she be short and plump, the more closely it fits the figure the better, particularly the sleeves, which should never be large. If she be slight, the dress may be opened in front and the sleeves loosened at the wrist, with white linen chemisette and sleeves. No basque, or a very slight one, should be worn, nor anything else which will flutter in the wind. No ornament is needed. A good effect of color and form is all that is seen or that is desirable. The fashion of a waistcoat of light material for summer, revived from the fashion of the last century, is a decided improvement, and so is the over-jacket, of cloth or seal-skin, for rough weather. It is the duty of every woman to dress in as becoming and attractive a manner as possible; there is no reason why pretty young girls should not indulge in picturesque riding costume so long as it is appropriate.

"If ladies prefer, a quilted skirt, not too full, may be worn. It should be lined with silk or glazed muslin, and will be found no impediment. Long boots are a great comfort and protection in riding long distances.

"All ladies who desire that riding should be to them a healthful exercise, must take great care that their dress be perfectly easy in every part, particularly over the chest and around the ribs. Let the boots be easy, and the gloves, which should be leather gauntlets, large and soft, and all elastic bands very loose."

POTATOES.—QUANTITY OF SEED.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Noticing in your paper of April 20th, a few hints on potato planting, I thought, although more used to holding the plow than pen, that I would jot down my experience as regards the amount of seed per acre. I have always believed that, in order to secure a good crop of potatoes, it was not only necessary to have good seed, but that it should be in quantity not less than twelve or fifteen bushels per acre. Now, however, I am of a different opinion. Last spring, having lost nearly all my potatoes by freezing, and not being able to get more, I planted half an acre in the following manner: First, I cut the seed ends off quite small, saving the rest of the potato to eat. Second, I planted in rows three feet and a half apart each way, putting in two pieces in each hill, on half the ground that I planted. The other half of the ground I put in only one piece in a hill. I cultivated them the same as I had done years before, using a common shovel plow twice during the season, and hoeing at the same time. The soil on which I planted the potatoes is a dark sandy soil, and had been cropped for *five* years in succession without any manure whatever.

As the season advanced I was surprised at the remarkably stout growth of tops; and when I came to harvest them I was still more surprised at the yield, which was one hundred and fifty, or three hundred bushels per acre,—a hundred bushels more per acre than I have ever had the good fortune to harvest on land equally as good, and with three times the amount of seed. Such are facts though roughly expressed.

D. C. M.

Washara Co., Wis., 1861.

A SOLEMN PROTEST AGAINST "ASSES."

"H. T. B." was always supposed, by his most intimate friends, to be a man of progress. The vast multitude, who have for many years been delighted with his contributions to the Rural New-Yorker, have regarded him as one of the progressive school. Has he not for many years been the champion of the poor and landless?—has he not, while each year adding many acres to his goodly domain,—at the same time loudly advocated the cause of the needy, and recommended the division of large farms, so that every poor man could have a farm, and no man a large one? Who has delineated with more truthfulness, the lines of beauty in nature or art? Were he to have the control of things, the earth would blossom like the rose; each farm house would, like his own, be surrounded by a noble park; the verbena and Geranium would take the place of the elder and the thistle in all our gardens.

How eloquently "H. T. B." has advocated the cause of patent churns, clothes dryers, and every improvement that saves the good housewife toil! Suddenly, a change has come o'er the Major. Not more sudden was the change that recently befel A. H. Stephens, or James Gordon Bennett. All those visions of beauty, once familiar to "H. T. B.," are suddenly dispelled. The muses, the painter, and the sculptor, no longer give him pleasure in their splendid creations. He has forgotten his old friends who have cheered him in his solitude by congenial tastes; and at last, discarding all "lackadaisical imitations," has found a friend in the "genuine article,"—a "jackass." With the natural desire we have to possess the portraits of our dearest friends, he has obtained one of said animal, which may be seen in the Rural New-Yorker of May 11th, instant. Not content with the publicity he has given to the physiognomy of his friend he suggests, in his communication, that he should take the place of the horse, noblest of animals, because forsooth the horse will consume more food. I need not reason on the expediency of such an innovation. I hope the most disagreeable and repulsive of animals will not succeed in gaining his point. When the trumpet sounds in Wyoming Valley, calling its gallant citizens to rally to sustain "Our Country's Flag," would "H. T. B.," clothed in all the "panoply of war," issue from his gates, mounted on his friend, the jackass, and jog along to the camp of the army? No! he would select the beautiful and fleet horse, and rush to victory. I have admired "H. T. B."—nay, I have loved him for his genial qualities, for his refinement of thought; and when I have seen him stand entranced before the creation of the artist, or charmed with a poetical gem, little did I think he would ever publish to the world such a work of art as is found connected with his essay in the New-Yorker.

My friend, renounce your new alliance, and let me again see the horse proudly moving through your beautiful pastures!

W. N. E.

Rochester, May, 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

Seeding with Timothy.

A writer in the *Prairie Farmer* gives his experience for forty years, thus:—"I sow timothy either with oats or wheat—prefer wheat. Have my ground well fitted in the spring, sow my wheat or oats, as the case may be, harrow in one way, sow my timothy, harrow the other way, and then roll the ground with a good roller. Let "Thoughtful" do this, and as sure as two and two make four, he will have timothy, if his seed is good. I never failed but once, that I recollect—then I sowed my timothy without harrowing it in. Do not be afraid of covering timothy seed. A harrow cannot cover it too deep. If a good roller is used, there will be no need of harrowing to cover it."

Food of Cows after Calving.

It is customary with many farmers to feed cows immediately after calving, with warm slops—a pail of bran or meal, and warm water, well salted—and a better diet is commenced at once, in order to get as much milk as possible. A writer in the *Homestead* objects to this proceeding as contrary to nature, and very likely to induce caked bag and milk fever. He contends that the cow should have rest and quiet, rather than "a dose of physic and warm mashes," as is often given, and adds:—"It is an error to suppose that tasking the stomach after the fatigue of parturition, can be otherwise than hurtful. A drink of water and a little dry hay is enough for the first day, and she should have nothing better than the best hay for three or four days, until all inflammatory symptoms are passed."

Soiling Advantageous to Dairymen.

The Watertown (N. Y.) *Reformer* has been furnished with the proceedings of the Farmers' Club at Belleville, in which we find that the following Report on the practice of Soiling was unanimously approved:

Let five acres be appropriated to pasturing 10 cows during six months, commencing with the first of May. One-half acre may be sown to winter barley or rye, which can be commenced being used for feed by the first of June. This, at one and a half tuns per acre, will supply the cows 10 pounds a day, which is all they will eat in addition to what they get from the pasture, and will last to June 15th. One acre of clover, which will be amply large to commence feeding by the time the rye is gone, at two tuns per acre, will last 30 days, or until July 15. One-half acre of oats and barley will supply the demand from this date until Aug. 1. One acre of corn, which has been sown early, will by this time be ready to feed, which, at a yield of four tuns per acre at 20 pounds per day, will last 40 days more, or until Sept. 10. Now, as the barley or rye will have been all fed by June 15th, there will be ample time to raise a crop of sowed corn on the same ground, which will obtain sufficient growth to be used by Sept. 10th, and according to previous allowance, will last until Oct. 1st, from which time until the first of Nov., when the cows should go into winter quarters, a half acre of corn fodder is an ample provision, and a large part of it will be left for winter use.

Now for the winter keeping. In the first place, they should have good, warm, well ventilated and well littered stables, plenty of good water, and be regularly fed. Three-fourths acre of carrots at 700 bushels per acre, would yield 525 bushels; also three-fourths acre of beets at same rate, 525 bushels. If the carrots should be fed from Nov. 1st, at the rate of one bushel per day for each cow, they would last until Feb. 10th, from which time the beets may be fed until June 1st, which is the time the green feed is to be used. Two acres planted to corn at a yield of 40 bushels, and three acres sown to oats, peas, and barley at the same rate, would yield a total of 200 bushels, which would be sufficient to give each cow three quarts per day during the six months of winter feeding. The pumpkins raised with the corn, could be fed during the month of October. Five acres of grass at two tuns per acre, together with the straw and corn stalks, would supply sufficient fodder for the cows, together with feed enough for a team to do all the work to be done on the land. The manure made by these 10 cows, if they were stabled nights, as they should be, during the summer, and all the time during the winter, would be 10 loads each, or 100 loads in all, which, at 20 loads per acre, would give you a thorough manuring once in four years. To this add a top-dressing of plaster, and enough nutriment is given to the soil to warrant the above estimates.

Ten good cows with such keeping will produce a yearly average of butter and cheese worth at least $40, or a total of $400, and the soil, instead of being impoverished, as it certainly must be by a continued system of grain raising, will be constantly increased in fertility.

Hilling Corn.

R. C. Randall's article on the Culture of Corn, in the *Rural Register*, from which we have made several extracts, closes with the following paragraph:

One day while hoeing in our garden corn field of a quarter of an acre, we sat down a half hour, and studied diligently the character of the *rootlets* everywhere about us radiating from the corn stalks, from one to three inches above the surface of the ground. It occurred to us that Nature designed them for something else than mere ornaments; and that if the requisite material for their full development were supplied, they might become roots, and add something to the vigor of the stalk. So, in order to make our experiment a fair test, we set to work with our hoe, and to each alternate hill we drew up the earth, covering the shoots to an average depth of three inches. After an interval of two weeks, we found, upon examination, that we had a set of vigorous top roots, giving extra support to the stalk, and imparting an extraordinary degree of vigor to its growth. Nearly every stalk thus "hilled up" afforded an extra ear, grew one-fifth taller than those not hilled, and the grain ripened several days earlier. Hence we have ever since argued that it is good economy to "hill up" corn; but we would remind the farmer that it is a dangerous practice to run plow or cultivator so near the stalks as to disturb the regular roots. A very simple and efficient cross-bar cultivator can be arranged, so that, with a light dip on either side, the two outer shares will throw sufficient earth to the stalks, without disturbing the roots.

Cheese-Making Experiments.

In a late number of the Rural we gave an extract from the London *Agricultural Gazette* upon "Deficiencies in Dairying," and now present the conclusions of Dr. Voelcker, who is engaged by the Royal Ag. Society of England in a series of dairy experiments. These researches prove that there is room for great improvement even in the best dairies, and confirm the results previously arrived at by the Doctor in his own dairy, viz., "that nearly 25 per cent. of the casein and butter which go to form cheese pass pass off in the whey; in fact, that could we completely extract therefrom the whey, where we make three cheeses now, we should nearly make four; of course the pigs would suffer; but the cheese would be much more valuable could it be extracted as food for man, than, as now, in the whey for pigs. Dr. Voelcker says further, he thinks it may be extracted. The results of Dr. V.'s experiments will probably show, that as there are very many different methods of cheese-making, so are there amazing differences in the composition of the cheese made. At the end of September he had analysed 48 different cheeses, and he found the quantities of water in them vary as much as 16 per cent., being in the maximum quantity about 4-10ths of the whole. He has found as much difference as 16 to 20 per cent. in the quantity of water in the curd, when finally ready to put in the press, and there is little doubt that this great difference considerably affects the quality of the cheese when fit for market."

Which are the Most Profitable Sheep?

During a discussion at the Ohio Ag. Convention, the following statements were elicited, and we copy them from the *Ohio Farmer*.

Dr. Townshend, of Lorain, said he was not prepared to settle this question. It was not settled in his own mind. My father's flock of sheep were formerly Leicesters, but are now mostly Cotswolds. Of late, however, we are getting back to Leicesters again. Land with us is too high to devote to wool-growing, hence we raise meat and grain for market. Our flock averages about six pounds of wool per head, and this sells at from twenty-five to forty cents per pound—perhaps averages thirty-three cents. We sell our wethers at from two to three years old, and have received as much as $16 per head for those that would dress forty pounds to the quarter, when it was worth ten cents per pound in New York. Frequently sell for from $5 to $10. The wool brings about as much per fleece as fine wool. Leicester sheep make excellent mutton. The Lincolns and Cotswolds are rather large and coarse-fleshed. My opinion is that for Northern Ohio the Leicesters are better than any other. Southdowns give fine mutton, but less of it and less wool. No sheep keep well on hay alone, but all sheep pay for shelter and grain in winter.

Chester Palmer, of Geauga county, said he had an experience of twenty-seven years in wool-growing. He commenced with Spanish Merino sheep, and goes on the principle of raising those sheep that will give the greatest yield of fine wool to the acre. I selected my first flock of ewes with particular reference to their constitutional vigor, and crossed them with pure Silesian bucks. The result was, they yielded me four pounds and two ounces per head of clean wool. I raise no other. It is not fair to sell dirt for wool, and then say your sheep averaged so much wool. This year I sheared four hundred sheep that yielded five pounds, worth fifty cents per pound. Large sheep cannot be herded in such numbers as small ones, without deteriorating in size. His experience with the French Merino sheep has satisfied him that they are not the most profitable sheep. His Spanish and Silesian sheep gave twenty-five per cent. more profit than sheep raised from his largest ewes crossed with French Merino bucks. He is decidedly in favor of the fine-wool, and of a cross between Silesian and Spanish Merinos.

Mr. Chamberlain, of Clark county, said he had been breeding Spanish Merinos for a number of years, and claims they have more constitution, will bear more exposure, and flock together better than any other breed. He had flocked the Longwools and the French Merinos with the Spanish, and found the latter always the best. His sixty head average six and three-fourths pounds per head. He sowed rye to pasture his ewes on at the season of lambing, and likes the practice.

Mr. Quinn, of Columbiana. Fine wool with him had proved a failure. Had kept the Spanish and the Cotswold breeds, and the latter took on three pounds of flesh to one for the former. They are very quiet, eat, and lie down, while the fine-wools roam about the fields to see what they can find, and thus work off their feed. Gets about twice as much for a Cotswold wether as for a Merino, and is not insulted when he takes them to market. At five months old, his long-wool lambs weigh more than fine-wool sheep ever weigh. Mr. Palmer asked if he can keep as many to the acre as of fine-wool, to which he replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Palmer thinks he can keep three fine-wool sheep where he could keep but one coarse-wool.

Mr. Quinn thinks coarse wool worth more than farmers usually get for it. He usually sells his at 45 cents. He summed up by expressing the opinion that coarse-wool sheep are twice as profitable as the fine.

Mr. Easton, of Huron county, says that those who can make most by raising wool, should grow fine-wool sheep. Those who can make most by mutton should raise the coarse-wools. This depends partly on nearness to market, and partly on the character of the country. On hilly land, fine-wool sheep do best; but in a level country the coarse-wools are preferable.

Dr. Townshend remarked that more fine-wool sheep could be kept on an acre, but the difference is not in proportion to their weight. A wether that weighs two or three hundred pounds, will eat but little more than a small one. The Spanish Merino sheep is very active in its habits, runs about a great deal, and thus requires more food than if it was quiet. The coarse breeds of sheep have good digestion, and hence convert a large portion of their food into fat. The Leicester has a splendid digestion. I think that three coarse-wool sheep will eat about the same as four of fine.

Inquiries and Answers.

Cow Leaking her Milk.—As the Rural is supposed to know everything that will benefit the farmer, we know of no better source to which to look for information, *ergo*, will you, or some of your many correspondents, inform me how to cure a cow of leaking her milk?—Wm. G. R., *Malone, Franklin Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

Grass Seed for Swampy Land.—Will some of your numerous readers inform a beginner what kind of grass seed would be the best adapted to sow on swamp prairie, where the soil is a rich, black loam, and the water stands a greater part of the spring months. Also, what time would be best to sow the same? I wish to convert the land into pastures and meadows.—J. W. A., *Tipton, O.*, 1861.

What is the Matter with the Horses?—Will some of the Rural's readers please inform me, if possible, what is the matter with the horses in this neighborhood? I have had one very valuable horse die, and have seen and heard of others, with the same disease. They are first affected with lameness, gradually growing stiff in every joint, until unable to rise, and if helped up, they cannot stand more than one or two minutes,—appetite not very good. The last day or two, they swell very much, in some cases their eyes have swollen so as to close entirely before death. By sending a remedy you will very much oblige many farmers.—E. P. S., *Durant, Cedar Co., Iowa*, 1861.

Our correspondent will find an excellent plan for a barn in the Rural of the 4th inst. Our readers will doubtless give him the information desired in the above query.

Stucco for a Stone House.—I contemplate building a house this season, of rough stone, and stuccoing the same outside. The stones, which are from a shelly lime ledge, when exposed to rains and hard freezing, crumble considerably. I wish to inquire, through the medium of your paper, of some one whose experience or observation enables him to speak knowingly upon this subject, whether these stones, when properly coated with plaster, will be durable in a wall? Also, the proper manner of making and putting on this outside finish, and whether it can be done so as to obviate all danger of cracking and peeling off.—M. C. R., *Sennett, Cay. Co., N. Y.*, 1861.

It is difficult to get a good stucco, one that will endure our severe climate. We would not recommend its use unless absolutely necessary. We hope some of our readers will give the needed information. Many a good house has been about ruined by the application of a stucco that constantly cracked and peeled off. A gentleman in this city traveled a good many hundred miles, and consulted with many of the best builders in the country, with the view of engaging some mechanic to stucco a fine brick house he had built, and after all abandoned the idea.

Draining, Salt, &c.—As you are ever ready to give information gratis, I presume to make the following inquiries:—Where, and at what price, can I obtain a good ditching plow, one that will make drains cheaper than man power? I have a seven acre field which has a streak running across it about two rods wide, of cold, springy land; will one drain through it make it dry? Is tile better than stone for drains? What effect will salt have if put in the hills while planting corn? Will it prevent the worms eating the corn?—R. M. P., *Knowlesville, N. Y.*, 1861.

We think *Bartlett's Ditching Plow* is one of the best. Those who have used it consider it quite effective. *Carrington's Mole Drain Plow* is also highly recommended by farmers who have tested it thoroughly. Both these plows were illustrated and described in our last volume,—see pages 161 and 221. Those who have such implements which they wish to sell, should advertise the fact in the agricultural papers, and thus advance their own interests and accommodate the farmers. One drain running through your wet streak would doubtless drain it pretty well, unless too springy, but it would be better to make an occasional side drain, cut diagonally with and running into the main. Stone is as good as tile,—in fact, anything that will keep an open channel for the water will answer. Salt is disliked by all kinds of worms; but must be used sparingly in the hill, or it will kill the seed.

Moon Eyed Horses.—I wish to find out the symptoms and a cure of a disease of the horse, known as the Moon Eye. I have a horse that I think is thus troubled.—Inquirer, 1861.

There are several modes of treatment adopted by the various practitioners. We give these, and "Inquirer" may follow out such as seem to best meet the requirements of the patient. Spooner says that inflammation is the leading feature in all, and therefore should be met by active anti-phlogistic treatment. An active dose of physic should be given, as soon as the horse is prepared, by mashes, and, in the meantime, three or four quarts of blood should be taken from the neck, on the same side as the affected eye. The eyelids should also be scarified, then well fomented with warm water; after which, we have derived great assistance from putting linseed poultices, in linen bags, on the eyes, by means of leather blinds. These should be continued during the day, and may serve as the vehicle for the application of opiate or Goulard lotions, which, applied in the usual way, are but of little service. By this prompt and active treatment a great deal of good can be accomplished, and the loss of sight may be greatly postponed. It is useless to attempt half measures; we should either treat actively or not at all. After the violence of the inflammation has subsided, much benefit may be obtained by putting a few drops of the wine of opium into the eye, twice a day.

Dr. Dadd objects to the blood-letting treatment, considering it worse than useless. Having removed the patient to a healthy location, make such a change in the diet as will produce an alterative effect. If the horse has been kept up for some time, and fed upon stable provender, any description of green, succulent fodder, will produce certain sanatory effect. The medicine best calculated to co-operate with hygienic means is:—Sassafras, skunk cabbage, and gentian, *each three* ounces; sulphur, two ounces; elm bark, eight ounces; ginger, two ounces, salt, three ounces. All the ingredients must be powdered. Mix the whole, divide into twelve parts, and give one every night in the food. As a preparation for the eye, put one ounce of the tincture of Indian hemp into a pint of rain water, and apply two or three times a day.

Rural Notes and Items.

The Season.—The first two weeks of May furnished most unseasonable weather—with snow storms, cold rains and high winds, not to say chilling blasts. An old time adage says—

"Cold May and windy,
Barn filleth up finely,"

but we reckon farmers would prefer to forego the "cold May and windy," and rely upon fair and warm weather now to fill their barns in autumn. The weather has been such, and the ground so wet, that very little spring work has yet been done in this region. But let farmers be hopeful still—remembering it is always darkest just before day, and that croaking is of no avail. The promised seed time is sure, though it may be late this year, requiring extra effort and hours of labor from the nation's "home guard"—those who must carefully and earnestly plant, cultivate and reap to sustain the country in its day of trial. Discouraging as is the prospect now, the "winter of our discontent" will soon be made glorious summer, and the great laboratory of Nature prepared for an army of producers. Let every one be ready for the important but peaceful conflict, and determined that the campaign shall, with the favor of Providence, result in an increased production of the staples most in demand.

Postage on Seeds, Cuttings, Plants, &c.—Some years ago the Rural and other journals discussed the subject of postal reform—particularly urging the reduction of postage on Seeds, Plants, Cuttings, &c., for the benefit of the agricultural and horticultural public. We are glad to learn that such a reform was included in the postal laws adopted at the last session of Congress—a section providing that packages of seeds, cuttings, &c., *not exceeding eight ounces in weight*, shall be charged only *one cent an ounce*, or fraction of an ounce, to any place in the United States under 1,500 miles, and two cents an ounce for over that distance. Though this is announced to be the law, Post-Masters have not yet received instructions on the subject, and hence the old and exorbitant rates are still exacted in most instances. A correspondent (who thinks the Rural was the pioneer in urging this wholesome reform, and if so, that it should claim a little credit therefor,) writes us that, though largely engaged in mailing plants and seeds, the new law has not benefited him a penny—the P. M. refusing to mail at less than 8 cents per ounce, until he should receive official notice from the P. O. Department. Our friend thinks the difference between 8 cents and 1 cent per ounce on seeds and plants which he has mailed since the new law went into effect in New York and other cities, amounts to enough to buy a small farm, and rightly avers that the Department should promptly advise and instruct its subordinates relative to the radical change in postal rates.

— We may add, that our Post-Master sends seeds and cuttings according to the new rates, although he has not yet received any definite instructions on the subject. The War troubles at Washington may have caused the delay; but the details of a law designed to benefit a large class of citizens should be promulgated as speedily and widely as possible.

Wool Growing in Oregon.—The Pacific States are rapidly increasing their flocks of sheep, and must soon become large producers of wool for export. California, of course, takes the lead, but Oregon will soon grow an immense amount of wool. Indeed, that young and sparsely populated State, has already made a good beginning. The last mail from the Pacific confirms this. Mr. A. H. Morgan, of Salem, Oregon, sends us the following statement of the amount of wool grown in that State last year, as near as can be ascertained—the figures being furnished by L. C. Pratt, Sup't of the W. W. Manufacturing Co., of Salem:

Washington County		2,325 lbs.
Wasco	"	2,354 "
Clackamas	"	5,134 "
Polk	"	15,192 "
Benton	"	21,810 "
Marion	"	33,734 "
Clatsop	"	2,969 "
Yamhill	"	8,585 "
Multnomah	"	2,063 "
Lane	"	17,212 "
Linn	"	16,294 "
Umpqua and Douglas		22,845 "
Bought for Export, by other parties,		
Linn County		6,000 lbs.
Yamhill "		5,000 "
Portland City		36,500 "
Total		198,017 "

About Alden's Horse Hoe.—An Ohio subscriber, Mr. John Seely, inquires if we or any of our correspondents can give any information about Alden's Horse Hoe, for cultivating corn—adding, that he wishes to know what farmers in this State think of it. Perhaps we cannot do better, in reply, than to give the following note, sent us (a few days previous to the receipt of the inquiry,) by Mr. S. Edwards Todd, author of "Young Farmer's Manual." Mr. T. writes:

"Allow me to occupy a little space in the Rural, to answer the numerous inquiries which it is not practicable for me to answer by private letters, in relation to Mr. Alden's Horse Hoe. Farmers seem to be afraid to order one, and have appealed to me repeatedly, to give my opinion of its real merits. I could never be induced to recommend a tool or implement unless I *know* it to possess superior merit. I procured one of Alden's Horse Hoes last season, and although I had on hand two good ones of another kind, I thought it a paying investment to throw them aside as useless, when compared with his. I know it reduced the expense of cultivating my crop of corn full one-half, which would more than pay for one of them."

Hops—*Amount Produced in England.*—A late number of the *London Times* says.—"The annual returns relating to hops have been issued for 1860, that disastrous hop year, following a series of five seasons remarkable for a large produce. The number of acres under hops was 46,272, an increase of 607 over the year 1859, but the number of pounds weight charged with duty was unfortunately only 11,162,777, to compare with 68,496,958 in 1859. The total amount of duty charged on the growth of the year was only 59,767*l*, in 1859, 599,346*l*. In 1855, the duty averaged 12*l*. 12s. 1d. per acre; in 1856, 8*l* 19s. 3d., in 1857, 6*l* 3d 9d.; in 1858, 9*l*. 16s. 3d.; in 1859, 13*l*. 2s. 6d.; in 1860, 1*l*. 10s. 1d. The quantity of British hops exported in 1860 was 511,505 lbs., of which only 22,335 lbs. were of that year's growth; of foreign hops for home consumption 24,844 cwt. paid duty (20s. per cwt.) from the 1st of January, 1860, to the 6th of February."

Editorial Change.—We regret to find in the *Prairie Farmer* of the 2d inst., the valedictory of Mr. Charles D. Bragdon, who has been one of its editors for several years past. Mr. B. is a vigorous and able writer, and highly esteemed socially—as a man of genial nature and unswerving integrity in the discharge of duty. He will be missed by his readers and contemporaries. We trust the agricultural public will not lose the benefit of his services, but that he will ere long resume his connection with the Rural Press.

—The last number of the *Farmer* introduces Mr. W. W. Corbett as the future associate of Mr. H. D. Emery in the editorial management of the paper. Mr. C. has been connected with the *Farmer* for some years, and is, therefore, no stranger to the duties and responsibilities assumed.

Agricultural Exhibitions.—The first Annual Fair of the Oregon State Ag. Society is announced to be held Oct. 1-4. The location has not yet been determined upon.——The Cattaraugus Co. (N. Y.) Fair is to be held at Little Valley, Sept. 11-13.——Clinton Co. (N. Y.) Fair, Sept. 10-12.——The Spring Exhibition of the Brockport (N. Y.) Union Ag. Society, is to be held June 11. The premiums comprise Horses, Sheep, Butter, Flowers and Implements.——The Harpersville (N. Y.) Union Ag. Society's next Annual Fair is to be held Sept. 17 and 18.——The Brookfield (N. Y.) Ag. Society's next Fair is to be held Sept. 24th and 25th.

Mole Draining in Illinois.—The *Prairie Farmer* understands that "there are at the present time, nineteen mole drainers at work in Will Co., Ill., making an average of 100 rods each, per day,"—and thinks the effect of this will be great, the season having been so wet. Will our contemporary please name the plow or machine used, its cost, and the expense of operating?

HORTICULTURAL.

HARDINESS OF NEW GRAPES.

THE past winter has been well calculated to test the hardiness of the new grapes, as being, we think, more severe, and more injurious to our old varieties, in this section, than any winter for the past ten years. Our crops of Isabellas, we think, will be very light, as vines left uncovered, as far as we have learned, have suffered severely. J. LARROWE, of Hammondsport, a place becoming celebrated for its vine culture, writes us: "Our vines in this vicinity have become somewhat injured by the winter, especially the Isabella, the Catawba wintering better. On the night of the first of May, we had a bad freeze which hurt the buds somewhat, but still the prospect for a fair crop with us is very good, providing we have no more frosts. Peaches and cherries are killed, the like of which, so far as the cherries are concerned, we have never before known at this place."

To-day we examined the vines on the grounds of HIRAM SIBLEY, Esq., of this city, with a view of ascertaining the effects of the winter, and the comparative hardiness of each, and made a few notes, of which our readers shall have the benefit. These vines are planted in a well prepared border, the ground sloping a little towards the north, and are planted in a row running north and south, supported by a good trellis, made heavy, except the bottom and top rail. They are young, having been planted three years, and have remained fastened to the trellis and unprotected during the winter. The ends of the lateral branches were cut off in the fall.

1. *Northern Muscadine*—Wood all sound and buds breaking.
2. *Isabella*—Wood of all side-shoots killed to the bud at base. Wood all killed to within three feet of ground.
3. *Delaware*—Four and a half feet high. Wood all sound to the ends of shoots, buds breaking.
4. *Diana*—Six feet high. Wood all killed to within three feet of ground. All the side-branches killed to the last buds, and these are swelling.
5. *Rebecca*—Four feet high. Badly injured. All wood killed to within one foot of ground. Below this, buds swelling.
6. *Catawba*—Injured about like Isabella.
7. *To-Kalon*—Four feet high. Apparently uninjured. Buds bursting.
8. *Hartford Prolific*—Entirely killed to within six inches of ground.

In addition to the above varieties two years planted, and of course smaller and less exposed, we give the following result.

Concord—Two feet in height, all sound.
Logan—About the same size, sound.
King—Uninjured.
Northern Muscadine—Uninjured.
Raabe—Ends of lateral shoots injured, but two or three buds nearest the base finely breaking.
Garigues—Badly injured. Killed nearly to the ground.
Clara—About like Raabe.

WILLIAM A. WOODWARD, of Orange County, N. Y., gives, in the *Horticulturist*, the effects of the winter in his vineyard, as follows: "The past winter, though in general moderate and pleasant, was characterized by two remarkably cold days, said to be the coldest for thirty years. The thermometer indicated, January 13, 1861, twenty, twenty-nine and a half, and thirty-six degrees below zero at three localities in this vicinity. My residence is in the Highlands of the Hudson, at an elevation of about four hundred feet above the Hudson River. On the 8th of February the weather was again at near the same temperature, cold enough to test in the most satisfactory manner the hardiness of our native grapes. It may be received as an axiom, that all such as withstood this test are hardy beyond dispute. The two cold terms alluded to were of short duration, and were succeeded by moderate, clear weather. Undoubtedly the sun shining upon the frozen plants had as much to do with their injury as the extreme cold itself. This is the experience of many intelligent persons. On my own grounds, the more tender varieties are not injured where they laid down upon the ground, and were partly covered with leaves or snow, which was sufficient to shield them from the sun while in a frozen state. I have made a list of such grapes as I am cultivating, and the condition they were in, to show the effects produced upon them, which you are at liberty to publish for the benefit of your readers. If others similarly situated will do the same, we shall soon gather a large fund of reliable information upon grape culture, which will be of great value.

The following I class as *perfectly hardy*, exposed to the open air, tied to a trellis, and not protected in any manner. They are three years old, and grew last year strong, healthy wood, which was pruned down to four feet last fall, and intended for fruiting in 1861:

Clinton—Wood of last year's growth, 15 feet, very strong, ripe early. Now green and healthy to the ends.

Hartford Prolific—Growth 10 feet, strong, ripe wood. Uninjured.

Concord—Growth 15 to 18 feet, strong, vigorous, ripe wood. Uninjured.

Perkins—Growth 20 feet, robust, extra large ripe wood. Uninjured.

Early Northern Muscadine—Growth 16 feet, strong and vigorous. Uninjured.

The following I class as *half hardy*. The fruit for 1861 is entirely killed; but ordinarily they stand our severe winters, and bear fruit. I have found, however, that whenever this class of vines are laid upon the ground and covered with earth, the fruit of the following season is fine, and ripens several days earlier than if exposed on the trellis during winter: Isabella, Catawba, Diana, To-Kalon, Union Village, Garrigues, American Hamburgh, Hyde's Eliza. My advice to cultivators north of Maryland is, to cover these varieties every fall.

The following varieties I find were covered purposely, or by accident, and of course are in good order now: Delaware, Anna, Rebecca, and Lenoir.

From the facts we have given, it will be seen that the Delaware passed through the winter here unscathed, in the instance named. We think this is the fact generally, though there may be exceptions. From the source above quoted, we obtain the following facts furnished by D. S. HEFFRON, of Utica, N. Y.

"A Mr. Foster first brought the Delaware to this county nearly eighteen years ago. He obtained the cuttings of a friend in Lambertville, N. J. After fruiting the vines for a few years, Mr. Foster changed his residence a short distance, but he reserved his vines, and took them with him, and has fruited them where he now resides for the last ten or twelve years.

"That Mr. Foster's vines are true Delaware, I do not ask you to believe on my word alone; for, in August, 1860, having a call from Mr. Charles Downing, of Newburgh, and the Delaware Grape king, Dr. C. W. Grant, of Iona, I had the pleasure of showing them one of Mr. Foster's Delawares, in fruit, in the fine grounds of the Hon. G. B. Mattison. These gentlemen both pronounced it the genuine Delaware by the time they were within ten feet of it. No further testimony need be added as to the genuineness of this Grape; but it may not be out of place to say, that when the fruit was ripe I took the trouble, for my own satisfaction, of comparing it with fruit that I had grown in my own grounds from Delaware vines that I had obtained from Dr. Grant, and I found them exactly alike *in every respect*.

"Unfortunately the Foster Delaware has not been disseminated much, as its proprietor has been satisfied with having a few old vines, producing a better quality of fruit than any of his neighbors; and not knowing its true name until the fall of 1859, he has never propagated it, except a little by layering for the accommodation of his immediate friends.

"And now what does this disinterested witness say of the Delaware during all this time that he has grown it? He showed it to me on an open trellis in his yard, and assured me that he had always grown the vines thus exposed; said he had never been in the habit of laying them down in winter; had never had the vines winter-killed so as to injure them; had never known them to mildew; if they had, he had never noticed it, and thinks he would have noticed it had it taken place. And, what will please us all, he said his Delaware had never failed to yield him a full crop of most luscious Grapes annually, that had always ripened before our early frosts.

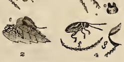
"It appears to me that no vine but a native, 'to the manor born,' could bear such a severe test as Mr. F. has unwittingly given the Delaware, and come on with such flying colors. The past season was a very trying one for vines in this section. The most of them grew late. The Isabella, Catawba, and others of the same class mildewed very badly, and did not ripen their wood as well as usual; but the Delaware ripened its wood as well as the Concord, and was not more affected by mildew. I saw no rot among the fruit of the Delaware, while the Concord was slightly affected by it.

"It should not be forgotten that our winters are pretty severe, the mercury sometimes marking nearly 30 degrees below zero. On the morning of the 7th of February ult., the mercury was 27 below in the city, and 28 to 30 below zero in the country about here."

BLUE GRAPE-BEETLE.

J. LARROWE, Esq., of Hammondsport, N. Y., writes us under date of the 8th inst., inclosing "two bugs" which he had found upon his grape vines. Mr. L. says:—"One of them had eaten into the center and destroyed the bud. I have for two or three years suffered very much from its depredation. I would like to know from you, or some one that understands the subject, its habits, and means, if any, for its destruction. Last year it destroyed nearly one-third of my grape crop, taking the principal bud; and the only fruit from a great many hills was from the dormant buds that came out after the first were destroyed. My neighbors are being much injured this season by this insect, and we are very desirous to learn of a remedy."

This insect we have before described, and published a full description of the family in 1859, by JACOB STAUFFER, Esq., of Lancaster, Pa. It is the Grape Vine Flea Beetle (*Graptodera chalybea*), and belongs to an extensive family of leaf and bud-destroying insects. There are a number of genera, each embracing a greater or less number of species, which it is difficult, in many cases, to distinguish apart, owing to their close resemblance and minute size. Fig. 1 illustrates the *Gastrophysa cyanæ*; *a*, the hind leg; *b*, the gradually thickened antennæ; *c*, the strong jaws. Fig. 2 is a female, sometimes seen as early as the 5th of May, with their abdomens enormously swelled, and laying eggs on the leaves of the *Rumex obtusifolius*. They are not known to do mischief, yet they are by no means free from suspicion, and it is well to have an eye on them. They so nearly resemble fig. 3, the *Graptodera chalybea*, as to be readily taken for the same insect. This latter is the insect in question. Its antennæ, fig. 3, *d*, are of a uniform thickness in the 11 joints, and its thorax has a transverse depression, which the other has not. Fig. 1 is copied from a specimen found January 2d, two inches beneath the soil, near a grape vine, "alive and kicking," certainly not below the frost line.



The colors vary greatly in the same species, as Mr. HARRIS also remarks, from a dark purple, violet, Prussian blue, greenish blue, to a deep green color, and not always steel-blue, as the specific name, *chalybea*, implies.

Notwithstanding their hard names, long enough for a Polish count, they are not entitled to rank among the "big bugs;" but the wee creatures are not without notoriety, and are found to afford matter for history, like other depredators; and such was their importance in Europe that they were made a matter of especial investigation by the Doncaster Agricultural Association. A report by Mr. RIDGWAY was published in 1834. Mr. H. LE KEUX also wrote a prize essay on their history, which was read before the Entomological Society, and published in the 2d volume of their Transactions.

In our own country they are by no means unknown. Mr. DAVID THOMAS gave a highly interesting account, which was published in the 26th volume of SILLIMAN'S *American Journal of Science and Arts*, in which he states:—"These brilliant insects were observed by me in the spring of 1831, in Cayuga county, N. Y., creeping on the vines and destroying the buds, by eating out the central succulent parts. Some had burrowed even half their length into the buds. When disturbed, they jump rather than fly, and remain where they fall for a time without motion." During the same season, these beetles appeared in unusually great numbers in New Haven, Conn., and its vicinity, and the injury done by them was "wholly unexampled." Some vines were entirely despoiled of their fruit buds, so as to be rendered barren for the season. In 1830 and 1831, he found the vine leaves infested by "small chestnut-colored smooth worms," and suspecting these to be the larvæ of the *Chrysomela vitivora*, he fed them in a tumbler containing some moist earth. "After a fortnight or so," some of the beetles were found in the tumbler. Hence, there is no doubt that the former were the larvæ of this beetle, and that they undergo their transformations in the ground. KOLLAR recommends a *strong tea or decoction of wormwood*, as plants wetted by it will not be touched by the flea-beetles. Perhaps a decoction of *walnut leaves* would be equally well, as suggested by Mr. HARRIS. A *decoction of tobacco* is good where it can be applied.

The *Turnip-Flea Beetle*, or *Turnip-Fly*, belongs to the same family, fig. 4; *f*, the antennæ; *g*, the hind leg. It may be found on the turnip, radish and cruciferous plants generally, from May all through the summer. They are very injurious in gardens.

BRUSH UP THE GARDEN.

THOSE of us who put off till spring the business of clearing up the last year's rubbish in our gardens, find, in the performance of that duty, ample employment for the first days of weather warm enough to tempt us to engage in out-door work. One unaccustomed to the sight of any other than a constantly well-kept garden, can hardly imagine the sorry appearance one neglected in autumn presents in spring, nor what a change is made by bringing together and burning the old, dead stalks of the previous summer's fruitage and flowering. In the case of fruit-bearing shrubs, undoubtedly the best time to remove the canes not designed for the next year's use, is immediately after the bearing season is over, as that gives the new stalks all the sap, thus maturing the wood more perfectly, preparing it to resist the winter cold more successfully, and produce a more abundant crop of berries the following summer.

But, "better late than never." If we neglected last summer and fall to put our blackberries and raspberries in order for the coming season, let it be done in the spring, and as early as possible. The longer it is put off the more damage is done to the expanding foliage and the starting fruit buds. If you have been accustomed to let Nature take care of such shrubs as she does in the woods, never thinning out the dead, useless stalks, you have no idea how much brighter and fresher your garden will look after cutting away and removing all the wood except that of the last year's growth, though not a leaf has started on the canes left standing. Where old and new canes stand together in spring, one is apt to think, at first sight, that they are nearly all dead, so much more discernible are the dead ones by reason of their lighter color; and not till the old stalks have been trimmed away, does one recognize the wealth of promise the new ones afford. It is sufficient recompense for all the trouble of clearing out and destroying the old rubbish in a garden of small fruits, to see the livelier look it presents and the brighter prospect it gives for the coming harvest.

But if the improved appearance of a garden pays for the work of putting the fruit-bearing shrubs in order, the greater ease of getting the berries when they come pays the second time. It is murderous work to pick berries with bare hands, running the gantlet of old and new thorns—the old ones sharp and strong as the tooth of Time—the trouble being greatly aggravated by the difficulty of getting about in the almost impenetrable thicket of a two or three years' growth of canes.

The importance, too, of attending each summer to trimming the stalks of the current season's growth of fruit-bearing shrubs, is particularly to be seen in the case of the common black raspberry. That shrub propagates itself by the tips of the canes reaching down to the ground and taking root, and in forming a new plant, the vigor of the old one and its power of producing fruit are of course considerably diminished. In regulating these bushes in spring, one is surprised to see how large a number of stalks have grown so long as to fall over and take root. They should be shortened-in in summer.

The old stalks of annuals and of herbaceous plants, such as peonies, phloxes, spiræas, &c., give the flower garden a rough, unsightly appearance in spring, and should be removed and destroyed as early as possible. It takes but a few days of spring weather to start up many varieties of flowering plants, so as to give the garden quite a fresh, lively look, if only it is cleared of the dry, dead stuff that covers them; otherwise, one must wait a long time for new vegetation to make much show beneath the mass of brush left standing from the previous summer's flowering. A.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

THE CURCULIO.

MESSRS. EDS.:—In No. 16 of the RURAL, I see "A Reader" is making some "suggestions in regard to the Curculio." It is one of the ten thousand remedies that are good for nothing, and the added note is at fault in one respect. Although I acknowledge that making a pavement, or in any way smoothing the ground, so as to sweep it after jarring, as the *note* advises, is the sure thing, if anything is, allow me to suggest, that any one who combats the curculio on the supposition that if all *under* the tree are destroyed, his plums will be saved, will find it labor lost; *for the insect has wings, and is as perfectly possessed of the power of locomotion as any other of his species.* In this section we had a good crop of plums last season; and I could see no difference in the success of those who used ashes, lime, syringing with various decoctions, &c., &c., and those who used nothing. I don't say such things are of *no* use, but I do say they have proved failures, most signally, too. The sheet and mallet process *will* save plums to some extent. There is philosophy in it, it is true. But the sooner the idea is eradicated that the curculio cannot fly, the better, and all remedies based on that hypothesis will be at fault. His wings are as perfect as a pigeon's, and serve him as well.

Grand Rapids, Mich., 1861. J. T. ELLIOTT.

WE think our Michigan friend is a little too positive. The experience of a score of years has convinced us that the curculio does not fly a great distance. His wings may be as *perfect* as those of a pigeon, and so, we suppose, are the wings of the ostrich, and both answer the purpose for which they were designed, but neither were intended for long or rapid flights. If our remedy was not a good one, or the best that could be named, why did not our correspondent give a better? We are satisfied that the course we suggested will secure a crop of plums every season to those who will test it *faithfully*. It has done so here the last ten years, without a single failure.

FRUIT TREES AND THEIR ENEMIES.—Every person of natural good taste is a lover of good fruit, yet, in the war of nature, many enemies to the gratification of such taste exist, that require from man an unremitting diligence, in order that these luxuries of both life and health may not be destroyed long before maturity. Not least among these enemies are the apple tree worms just emerging from their winter house to prey upon the defenceless leaves, and buds of fruit, in countless millions. They are particularly troublesome where the orchards have been heretofore left to their destruction, and more or less so everywhere else. In the morning, early, and until they are full grown, they camp together in bunches on the tree, and a sharp-eyed man could scrape them off, with the aid of a step-ladder to reach, and put them in the fire, thereby rendering services of the value of from five to ten dollars, or more, per day.—S. N. HOLMES, *Syracuse, N. Y.*

Inquiries and Answers.

GROWING CELERY.

PLEASE inform me, in the RURAL, how to raise celery, where to get plants, &c.—SALAD.

Celery plants can be obtained at most of the seed stores in the spring, but, as a general thing, they are poor and spindling, having been grown too thick, and with too much heat, to make good plants. A dozen strong plants are better than a hundred such as are usually sold. If you have a hot-bed, sow a little seed, and as soon as the plants will bear it, transplant to a cold frame, or to the open ground, about two inches apart, and they will become strong for the trenches by June. If you have not a hot-bed, about the first of May prepare a moderately rich and warm soil for the seed bed, by digging well. Make very shallow drills, about a foot apart, into which sow the seed, which should be covered evenly. If the weather should prove dry at any time, give thorough waterings occasionally. As soon as the plants appear above ground, keep the weeds down and the plants well thinned out from the start. See that there is a space between each one, and as they grow, you may have to thin out several times. By the latter part of June, you will have fine plants for the trenches.

Preparing the Trenches and Planting.—Celery needs shading for a few days after transplanting, and by a little forethought this can be furnished very easily and cheaply. Select the place for celery, and then plant rows of peas, six feet apart, so that the rows of peas will be parallel with the celery trenches when dug. In this way they furnish sufficient shade to the celery, and can be removed in season so as not to injure the growth in the least. The trenches should be about six feet apart. Beginners make a mistake, generally, in placing them too close, for it does seem like a waste of ground at first. Dig the trenches about one foot deep and eighteen inches wide, placing the earth, as dug out, each side. This will raise the surface two or three inches more, making the trench some eight or nine inches deep. Now place, at the bottom of the trench, about six inches of good surface soil and three inches of well rotted stable manure. The manure from an old hot-bed is excellent for the purpose. With the fork, mix this manure with soil, and after this is done and nicely leveled off, throw in about an inch of good surface mold. Stretch a line through the middle of the trench, take up the plants carefully with the transplanting trowel, so as to disturb the roots as little as possible, and plant a row on each side of the line, nine inches apart in the rows, and the rows six inches apart. This will give two rows to each trench. Give a good watering, and the work of planting is done. As the plants grow, draw the earth up to them, always being careful to keep the leaf stalks erect. If only one row of plants is set in a trench, six inches apart is about the right distance. Some prefer this plan.

Liquid manure will very materially hasten the growth of celery, but care must be had not to place any very strong manure near the roots. Guano water, made by dissolving one pound of guano in sixteen gallons of water, may be applied with the most satisfactory results. Superphosphate of lime we have never tried, but from statements made to us, we have no doubt it will be found excellent. Celery makes its greatest growth after the heat of summer has abated, and it is during this time of growth that extra manure should be applied most liberally. This course of cultivation is as good as we can recommend for garden culture.

DOUBLE ZINNIA—CRYSTALLIZING GRASSES.—Can any of the RURAL's friends give information concerning the cultivation of the Double Zinnia? I have obtained a few seed, and would like to know something about planting them. Can they be transplanted; and will they bloom from the seed the first year? Also, can any one tell me, through the RURAL, how to crystallize grasses with alum?—E., *Sandwich, Illinois*, 1861.

The Zinnia may be sown in a hot-bed, or cold frame, or in pots, or a box in the house, and transplanted to the open ground as soon as danger from frost is gone. It would do well under favorable circumstances, doubtless, in the open ground. Good plants set out about the first of June will flower in July, and continue during most of the season.

To crystallize grasses, dissolve eighteen ounces of alum in a quart of soft water, (observing this proportion for a greater or less quantity,) boiling it over a slow fire in a close tin vessel, stirring it occasionally with a stick until it is dissolved. When it is nearly cold, suspend the subject to be crystallized by a thread from a small stick, laid horizontally across the aperture of a deep glass or earthen jar, into which the solution must be poured. The articles should remain in the solution twenty four hours, and then be taken out and suspended in the shade to dry. If the subjects to be crystallized are put into the solution when it is quite cold, the crystals are apt to be formed large, and the warmer the solution the smaller will be the crystals. Its strength may be tested by putting a drop on a blade of grass, and observing it crystallize as it cools. Almost any flower or vegetable substance may be operated upon. Fancy baskets may be made in this way, by first making a wire frame of any desired shape, twisting woolen yarn around the wires, and immersing it as directed for grasses.

For winter bouquets it is much better to grow the Ornamental Grasses and Everlasting Flowers, than to crystallize and color our common grasses and weeds.

BUDDING—(*Amateur.*)—We can give no precise day for budding fruits, &c. The only general rule is when the buds are well matured and before the bark becomes set.

Horticultural Notes.

THE FINE CHERRIES DESTROYED.—About a week ago I was surprised to find, from close and careful observation, that the blossom buds of all our fine *Heart* and *Bigarreau* Cherries are almost entirely destroyed by the intense cold weather of February last. Even the *Duke* varieties, which are considered very hardy, are extensively injured by the cold; but the late Kentish or Pie cherry, and the Morellos, are not seriously damaged. Cherries have not been killed before by the cold in this locality for at least a quarter of a century. The coldest weather we have had in this section of the country within the last thirty years, occurred on the 6th day of February, 1855, when the thermometer stood at 25° below zero; yet there was abundance of fine cherries the ensuing summer. On the 7th of February last, the mercury descended to 18 degrees below zero, and the fine cherries are killed quite as completely as the peach. It must be that the fruit buds did not ripen well before winter came on, in consequence of too much wet and warm weather late in the fall, which probably caused an abundant flow of sap into the trees, and thereby rendering the flower buds unfit to endure the severity of the winter. *Isabella* grape vines that have not been protected, are killed almost to the ground. The *Catawba*, *Clinton*, and *Oporto*, are but slightly injured. I have some young trees of the *French Prune*, which are badly injured, the blossom buds being all blited, and most of the branches. Apples and pears are in good condition and coming on finely.—S. FOREHAY, *Penn Yan, N. Y.*, 1861

GRAPE VINES.—All who observe the vine at this time, see that the buds are pushing forth as the van-guard of foliage and fruit, and that in many instances they come double, two buds from the same eye, which can only get the nourishment that would support one vigorous shoot, and, as a consequence, both are weakened. In order to regulate and remedy the evil, and get a strong and healthy growth of the vine and fruit, passing along my vines in the morning tour of observation, I carefully rub off the smaller and weaker bud, leaving the other alone, to perform to perfection its vegetable destiny.—S. N. HOLMES, *Syracuse, N. Y.*, 1861.

FRUIT-GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.—The regular Summer meeting of this Society will be held at Syracuse, on the 25th of June

Domestic Economy.

A WASHING DAY REVERIE.

SOLILOQUY OF A MARRIED MAN.

"I WONDER if we shall ever have any new improvement in washing machines, anything invented that will effectually silence every possible objection that a woman can raise, as regards the work, toil, drudgery, and the hundred and one other things which the inventive mind of woman alone can raise, and turn Monday into a quiet day like the rest of the week. How true the expression, '*Blue Monday*,' for I have not only been a witness, but have had some *experience* in its truthfulness. It seems to be of no use to hire the washing done, for at every attempt of this kind, my wife declares that it is not half so tiresome or disagreeable to do the work alone, as it is to put up with such help as she is sure to get. So that matter is settled, and to-day *I* have endeavored to accommodate, yet I do not see as it makes the least difference, she is just as cross and ill-natured, finds just as much fault with everything — scolds when I bring in wood, and when I do not, if I build a fire and do not build one — in fact, I hardly believe that she could live through Monday under *any* circumstances, without finding fault with something. This was not always so. I had rather prided myself on having the mildest and best dispositioned wife in the community,— one very near perfection,—embodying all the idealities of a true woman. No complaint without just cause. Now—well I hope that this ill-nature will *always* end with the close of the day, and leave me six days for enjoyment. But it's my positive opinion that all those who are blessed (if that's a proper term) with scolding and fretful wives, can date the commencement from washing day. It would be some satisfaction to know how many more there are in this section, who are mourning over domestic scenes of discord and discontent, who, like myself, ere the marriage vow was plighted, had imagined that marriage was the acme of human enjoyment, the step stone to perfect happiness. I'm safe in saying that I am not alone; but I guess a change has come over the spirit of *their* dreams as well as my own. I hardly believe that there is a man in Christendom, not possessing the patience of Job, that could pass through the ordeal which I have to-day, with unruffled feelings. And yet, there is no one to blame but myself. 'I never saw a man yet, that seemed to care whether a woman worked herself to death or not.' This is the consolation, and the *enjoyment* is closely allied to it. O! woman, *woman!!* thou holdest in thy hands the key to man's prosperity and happiness."

Query.—Would it not be well for a young man with a matrimonial turn of mind, to take into consideration the number of *blanks* drawn by those that have invested, and be doubly sure that *his* investment will draw a *prize!* A.

Genoa, N. Y., 1861.

BREAD, PIE AND CAKE.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I have often noticed inquiries in your paper for Baker's Gingerbread, and Brown Bread, which recipes please accept, as they have been well tested, and are what we call good. Also recipes for Lemon Pie and Sponge Cake.

GINGERBREAD.—One pint of molasses; half a pint of sweet milk; half a cup of butter; one tablespoonful of ginger; one teaspoonful of saleratus, made fine, and some salt. Stir the molasses and milk together till neither can be seen separate, then stir in the saleratus, the ginger, and salt. The butter must be melted if the weather is cold, if not, rubbed in the flour; make hard enough to roll, not soft enough to spread, roll out half an inch thick, wash with new milk before stamping, bake in a hot oven ten minutes. This is a sufficient quantity for four sheets.

BROWN BREAD.—Three cups of corn meal; three cups of rye, or Graham meal; six cups of milk, or water; one teaspoonful of soda; half a cup of molasses. Bake in an iron basin three hours.

LEMON PIE.—One lemon; one cup of sugar; three eggs; two tablespoonfuls of cracker; butter, size of a walnut. Stir the yolks with the sugar; grate the rind of the lemon and squeeze in the juice. One cup of sweet milk to put in last, then bake as a custard. Beat the whites to a froth, add three tablespoonfuls of pulverized sugar, a little lemon extract. When the pie is done, lay it on the top, put it back in the oven and let it brown over.

SPONGE CAKE.—One cup of sugar; one cup of flour; two tablespoons sweet milk; one teaspoon soda; two teaspoons of cream tartar; three eggs.

Oswego, N. Y., 1861. LOCINA.

HOW TO MAKE MUFFINS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Noticing an inquiry in a late number of your paper for making Muffins, I will give a recipe which I know to be excellent. Mix a quart of wheat flour smoothly with a pint and a half of lukewarm milk, half a teacup of yeast, a couple of beaten eggs, a heaping teaspoonful of salt, and a couple of tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Set the batter in a warm place to rise. When light, butter your muffin rings, turn in the mixture, and bake the muffins till a light brown.—J. A. G., *Phelps, N. Y.*, 1861.

IN reply to LIZZIE I send the following recipe for Muffins, which I think is excellent. Mix a quart of wheat flour smoothly with a pint and a half of luke warm milk, half a teacup of yeast, two beaten eggs, a heaping teaspoonful of salt, and two tablespoonfuls of lukewarm melted butter. Set the batter in a warm place to rise; when light, butter your muffin cups, turn in the mixture, and bake till a light brown.—A. C. P., *Danbury, Ct.*, 1861.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—I saw the inquiry in your paper of May 4th, "How to make Muffins?" I have just made some which are very nice. One quart of milk, (sweet); piece of butter the size of an egg, warmed in the milk; half cup yeast; two eggs; a little salt; flour enough to make a stiff batter. Let it rise over night.—AMELIA F. HOYT, *Durant, Cedar Co., Iowa*, 1861.

TO RESTORE FADED PARASOLS.—Sponge the faded silk with warm water and soap, then rub them with a dry cloth; afterward iron them on the inside with a smoothing iron. If the silk be old, it may be improved by sponging with spirits, in which case the ironing should be done on the right side, thin paper being spread over to prevent glazing.

TO MAKE TARTS OF FROSTING.—Make the shells as for ordinary tarts; prepare the frosting as for cake, adding a little extract and juice of lemon; fill the shells level with the frosting, and set them in the oven to harden. They will rise, look very nice, and are nice for children's picnics.—W., *Great Valley, N. Y.*

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

COMMUNION WITH NATURE.

NATURE, thy face has ever been
A joyous one to me,
I've loved thee long with all the love
That gushes strong and free
From gladsome childhood's truthful heart,
That seeks thy placid face,
Nor seeks in vain to find in thee
Some new, enchanting grace.

Oft hast thou been, unconsciously,
My spirit's dearest friend,
And to my darkest, saddest hour,
A soothing balm didst lend;
I love thine every glance and work,
The lofty, solemn wood,
The meadows gay with summer flowers,
The dreariest solitude;

And ocean's wave, the rippling stream,
The rugged, towering rock,
Or e'en a simple blade of grass,
In the same tone has spoke,
And bade my heart go forth among
Thy works alone to find
Subjects of worthy thought to fill
The eager earnest mind.

My eyes ne'er tire of thy sweet face
In all its changing moods,
And when in converse true with thee,
No weary care intrudes,
In all thy works a loving voice
Soft whispers unto me,
O, ne'er let worldliness enchain
Thy spirit now as free.

Geneva, Wis., 1861. B. C. D.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

DIVERSITY OF OPINION.

THE RURAL'S DEBATING SOCIETY.

IT is astonishing what a variety of opinions there is on every subject that can be mentioned, and how much good advice there is for us all, if we only could, or would, apply it. Looking over the columns of the RURAL, which is open to discussion, one is both instructed and amused. That little contest between the maiden lady and the *supposed* bachelor, on labor-saving machinery, was rather spirited, and somewhat laughable as well as edifying,—a subject which will bear agitation and much comment,—glad it was introduced. Much *has* been done to make woman's work lighter and easier, *i. e.*, in one sense. In the days when our ancestors carded and wove, and turned the windlass, women's work was not near as hard as now, because not so varied—not requiring near as much starch, or polish, or stitching, or formality, and not so much room to do it in. Our great, *convenient* houses are enough to wear out some women, while fashion and folly kill more than ever the spinning wheel or dinner pot could have slain. Though a woman, I agree mostly with the gentleman, H. T. B., and should not be afraid of abuse, nor imagine his wife is greatly to be pitied—just proving in how different a light we view the same persons and expressions.

Then, there is the dress question under agitation,—another subject that will bear discussion to our benefit. There is a great effort making in various places to introduce a convenient and proper working-dress. If it were only possible for woman to wear what is most suitable to her position and business, provided she dresses and behaves in a decent, ladylike manner, without the hue and gossip of everybody to interfere and discourage, we could live much easier.

The short dress *must be* acknowledged as the most convenient to do active work in. I have tried it, for one, and find I can sweep, make beds, and go up and down stairs with twice the ease I could in a long skirt. For ease and comfort I would prefer never to wear any other—I refer to the *Bloomer* style, worn with moderation—the skirt short enough to be out of the way, and yet not in the least ridiculous. As for expensive, ornamental dress, never had any taste or time, and of course no temptation to spend, to wear, or think about it, and am not qualified to dictate. I find myself in a matter-of-fact world, realities to deal with, and duties devolving on me which do not admit of attention to display, or fashion, to any extent. If it is some women's "duty and privilege" to study the arts of dress, to enhance their loveliness, I am willing they should study it, and gladden and beautify the world all they can. If I can have a dress clean, and neither too fashionable nor unfashionable, nor in any way calculated to elicit remark, it is all which, in my position, is required of me. We are all too apt to judge other people by ourselves, and forget that circumstances alter cases greatly.

There is quite a debate, too, or rather outburst of expression, among the "girls," on the subject of housework. Speak out, girls, and let us have *your* opinions as well as the rest. Perhaps you are not as well paid, nor as well treated, as you ought to be, though, as a general rule, you will get surer wages and kinder treatment among the farmers than elsewhere. "Farmer's Wife" may be hard to suit, and she may not. She may have *spit out* "hard truths" in a fit of unusual discouragement, though she needn't have been quite *so hard* on them, it is true. The RURAL is devoted principally to farming interests, and we are bound to discuss these matters fairly and amicably. QUEECHY.

* * *

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WOMAN'S TRUE CHARACTER.

IT is a subject of controversy in my own mind, as well as in that of others, whether AMIE belongs to the male or the female sex. I can hardly think that any of the latter class have become so far degenerated as to admit, for a single moment, their inferiority to man; if so, I would ask where has this immortal mind secluded herself? Has she been immured in the walls of some dark dungeon, where no ray of light ever enters? or is she a novice in some cloister or convent, shut out from the world's busy mart, and knows nothing of the improvements going on around her, and marks not the progress of events? Surely, some dread calamity must have befallen her, or she would not be so oblivious of the past. Perhaps the dawn of "intellectuality" is but just shedding its feeble light through the chambers of her darkened soul, and this is the reason she cannot distinguish more clearly the bright sunbeams of knowledge which shine so conspicuously in the faces of her sex. It is true, woman's intellect and attainments were considered inferior to man's a long, long time ago,—away back in the "Dark Ages," before the glorious sunlight of Christianity, and its attending satellite, Knowledge, shed their benign and softening influence upon the earth,—but the question has long since been settled beyond controversy, and in reply to AMIE's interrogations at the commencement of her piece, I answer, emphatically, no! Woman's inferiority has never been proved, and what is more, *never can*, nor *never will be*. On the contrary, she has proved herself capable of mounting to the topmost round of the ladder of earthly fame,—of the most profound erudition, depth and concentration of thought, thereby,—AMIE to the contrary notwithstanding,—bringing her "thoughts to a focus," and is everywhere acknowledged by men as possessing a far-seeing intellect, penetrating beyond the surface of things, down deep into the very heart. That is the reason men so often refer to the judgment of his wife,—and in many cases this far-sightedness of his "better half" has saved him from utter ruin.

In conclusion, I would suggest that AMIE,—be she male or female, young or old, rich or poor,—be kept in school until her mind becomes more mature, and perhaps at some future day she will be able to claim a "Reward of Merit." INDIGNATION.

McDonough, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

PHYSICAL TRAINING OF GIRLS.

THIS is the most momentous health-problem with which we have to deal, to secure the physical advantages of civilization for American women. Without this there can be no lasting progress. The Sandwich Island proverb says:

> "If strong be the frame of the mother,
> Her sons shall make laws for the people."

But in this country, it is scarcely an exaggeration to say that every man grows to maturity surrounded by a circle of invalid female relatives; that he, later, finds himself the husband of an invalid wife and the parent of invalid daughters; and that he comes at last to regard invalidism, as Michelet coolly declares, the normal condition of that sex—as if the Almighty did not know how to create a woman. This, of course, spreads a gloom over life. When I look at the morning throng of school girls in summer, hurrying through every street, with fresh, young faces, and vesture of lilies, duly curled, and straw-hatted and booted, and turned off as patterns of perfection by proud mamas—is it not sad to me to think that all this young beauty must one day fade and die? for there are spheres of life beyond this earth, I know, and the soul is good to endure through more than one; the sadness is in the unnatural nearness of the decay, to foresee the living death of disease that is waiting close at hand for so many, to know how terrible a proportion of those fair children are walking unconsciously into a weary, wretched, powerless, joyless, useless maturity. Among the myriad triumphs of advancing civilization, there seems but one formidable danger, and that is here.

It cannot be doubted, however, that the peril will pass by, with advancing knowledge. In proportion to our national recklessness of danger is the promptness with which remedial measures are adopted, when they at last become indispensable. In the meantime, we must look for proofs of the physical resources of women into foreign and even into savage lands. When an American mother tells me with pride, as occasionally happens, that her daughter can walk two miles and back without great fatigue, the very boast seems a tragedy; but when one reads that Oberea, Queen of the Sandwich Islands, lifted Capt. Wallis over a marsh as easily as if he had been a little child, there is a slight sense of consolation. Brunhilde, in the "Nibelungen," binds her offending lover with her girdle and slings him up to the wall. Cymburga, wife of Duke Ernest, of Lithuania, could crack nuts between her fingers, and drive nails into a wall with her thumb; whether she ever got her husband under it is not recorded. Let me preserve from oblivion the renown of my Lady Butterfield, who, about the year 1700, at Wanstead, in Essex, (England,) thus advertised:—"This is to give notice to my honored masters, and ladies, and loving friends, that my Lady Butterfield gives a challenge to ride a horse, or leap a horse, or run a foot, or *hollo*, with any woman in England seven years younger, but not a day older, because I wont undervalue myself, being now 74 years of age." Nor should be left unrecorded the high-born Scottish damsel whose tradition still remains at the Castle of Huntingtower, in Scotland, where two adjacent pinnacles still mark the Maiden's Leap. She sprang from battlement to battlement, a distance of nine feet and four inches, and eloped with her lover. Were a young lady to go through one of our villages in a series of leaps like that, and were she to require her lover to follow in her footsteps, it is to be feared that she would die single.—*Atlantic Monthly.*

* * *

DEATH OF MRS. PATTEN.

OUR readers cannot fail to remember the incident which occurred some two years since, of the fair young girl who had united her destinies with a captain of a Boston ship bound to California, and who, when her husband, in the midst of the voyage, was prostrated with brain fever, the crew mutinous, and she herself in delicate health, assumed the command of the ship, and, amid extraordinary perils, brought it safely into the harbor of San Francisco. They will remember, too, her voyage home via Panama, with her poor husband sunk into a fatuous state, and unable by look or word to testify, or even to know, the depth of his obligations to her heroic love; her arrival in Boston, the niggardliness of the owners of the ship, who rewarded such devotion to their interests with a poor thousand dollars; the death of the husband, for whom she had sacrificed so much; the birth and death of her babe, who liked not a world of so much woe; and the rapid decline of her own health amid so many cares and sorrows. Well, the end has come; the fair, brave little woman, whose name deserves to be placed henceforth by the side of Joan of Arc, of the wife of Seneca, and of that Christian wife, nobler than either, the Lady Rachel Russell, has sunk to her grave at the early age of twenty-four. It was a short life, as men count years, but in the record of womanly devotion and heroic affection, it will have an earthly immortality of which few centenarians in the annals of time could boast.—*N. Y. Examiner.*

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WOMAN BORN TO BE THE LOVING.—That Nature has ordained love as woman's task, more than men's, is thus declared by a late moralist:—"With men, love is never a passion of such intensity as with woman. She is a creature of sensibility, existing only in the outpourings and sympathies of her emotions. Every earthly blessing, nay, every heavenly hope, will be sacrificed for her affections. She will leave the sunny home of her childhood, the protecting roof of her kindred—forget the counsels of her sire, the admonishing voice of that mother on whose bosom her head had been pillowed—do all that a woman can do consistently with honor—forsake all that she has clung to in her girlish simplicity for years, and throw herself into the arms of the man she idolizes. He that would forsake a woman after these testimonies of affection, is too gross a villain to be called a man."

Choice Miscellany.

LINES

ON THE DEATH OF AN AMERICAN PATRIOT

To drum-beat and heart-beat
A soldier marches by,
There is color in his cheek,
There is courage in his eye;
Yet to drum-beat and heart-beat
In a moment he must die.

By star-light and moon-light
He seeks the Briton's camp,
And he hears the rustling flag,
And the armed sentry's tramp,
And the star-light and moon-light
His silent wanderings lamp.

With slow tread and still tread,
He scans the tented line,
And he counts the battery guns
By the gaunt and shadowy pine,
And his slow tread and still tread
Gives no warning sign.

The dark wave—the plumed wave—
It meets his eager glance,
And it sparkles 'neath the stars
Like the glimmer of a lance,
The dark wave—the plumed wave—
On an emerald expanse.

A sharp clang—a steel clang—
And terror in the sound,
For the sentry, falcon-eyed,
In the camp a spy hath found;
With a sharp clang—a steel clang—
The patriot is bound.

With calm brow—steady brow—
He robes him for the tomb,
In his look there is no fear,
Nor a shadow trace of gloom;
But with calm brow—steady brow—
He robes him for the tomb.

Through the long night, the still night,
He kneels upon the sod,
And the brutal guards withheld
E'en the solemn word of God;
Through the long night, the still night,
He walks where Christ hath trod.

In the blue morn, the sunny morn,
He dies upon the tree,
And he mourns that he can lose
But one life for liberty,
And in the blue morn, the sunny morn,
His spirit wings are free.

But his last words, his message words,
They burn, lest friendly eye
Should read how proud and calm
A patriot could die;
With his last words, his message words,
A soldier's battle cry.

From Fame-leaf and Angel-leaf,
From monument and urn,
The sad of earth, the glad of heaven,
His tragic fate shall learn;
And on Fame leaf and Angel-leaf
The name of *Hale* shall burn.

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

HYPOCHONDRIACS.

IF there exists any where a class of individuals who excite my aversion, and, yet more, my pity, it is that unfortunate portion of humanity, commonly styled hypochondriacs. These lugubrious people are wont to make their somber happiness consist in living as far as possible away from the sunny sides of creation, and devoting their time in staring fixedly and pensively at the inevitable shady sides, which may be found on the very brightest things of earth if, we are foolish enough to take out a search warrant and go on a hunting expedition after them.

Another source of happiness to these melancholics is meditation. They ruminate on the past till they can see nothing in it but graves and dead people,—they get out of sorts with the present, and dwell with dreadful forebodings on the unknown future,—suffering as greatly in anticipation and apprehension as a dozen stake-burnt martyrs ever did in reality. They are your exceedingly weak-nerved people, who go into hysterics over a hearty laugh, and take infinite delight in lying awake o' nights for fear the house will take fire, or be set upon by burglars, or some of the children die before morning. They are the ones who turn pale if a dog howls under the window, or the servant girl accidentally shivers a looking-glass, or overturns the salt-cup on the table-cloth. They are those miserably *poor* people who, though hundreds of thousands of their lawful property are gathering interest in the banks, are haunted with a perpetual dread of dying in the alms house. They are the over sensitive part of mankind, who imagine the rest of their fellow-creatures are in league to insult and injure them. They hold a spite against the world in general, and every body in particular, and very naturally believe that every body in particular returns the compliment and holds a spite against them.

These are the forlorn people, who, at parties and social gatherings, turn into melancholy wall-flowers, preserving a stolid silence, and a most dejected countenance, and then wondering why they are not noticed. They never think of playing the agreeable themselves, but expect every one else to do it to *them*, and being disappointed in the expectation, return home in woeful despondency, averring that parties are dreadful bores, and the people whom they meet there are downright clowns. These are the suicidal individuals, who, if acerbity of face and temper could avail in turning sweet cream sour, or wine into vinegar, would render themselves invaluable.

But the worst of all is, that some of these dear people fancy that religion consists in looking glum and solemn, and consequently measure their religious growth by the increase of distance between their eyebrows and chins, and the greater length to which they draw down the corners of their mouths. The more brow-wrinkled and woe-begone they look, and the more their whining voices consort with the dolefullest *miserere* that devout Catholics ever chanted, by so much the more seem they to esteem themselves *en route* for Paradise, ticketed and checked for the Celestial City. But as that blissful place is generally conceded to be one of praising and rejoicing, rather than of weeping and mourning, their prospect of getting there is, in my mind, quite precarious. They surely must switch themselves off on to another track, or their tickets will take them to some station diametrically opposite the one they are looking out for. Paradise, indeed! If they get *in*, it is to be hoped the rest of us may have the privilege of staying *out*. Positively, even in *this* world, where we expect trouble now and then, and are, therefore, somewhat prepared for it, I would rather have an ague fit, and shake with chills all day, and burn with fever the next, than be compelled to spend an afternoon with one of these dismal croakers. On the one or two occasions when I have had the felicity of entertaining them, or, in other words, of becoming the reservoir into which the stream of their hypochondriacal words was emptied, I have wished, from the bottom of my heart, that some direful calamity *would* befall them, just for once, to give them a taste of what real trouble is. I candidly would be willing to see their houses burned down, or their goods stolen, only for the wicked pleasure of knowing that they really had met with some misfortune worth having a long face about.

What interest do I take in knowing that my hypochondriacal neighbor was not invited to Mrs. Snooks' tea-party, or that Mrs. Judge W. passed her in the street without speaking, and that her minister never calls to see her oftener than once a twelve-month. Why do I care to know that Madam Hypochondria's husband cannot appreciate her, that he is not a congenial spirit, never talks to her, and would probably not shed a tear if she should die within the year. Poor man! I can hardly blame him if it be true, for it is a dog's life her inveterate nervousness has led him ever since they were married. Nervousness is the right word after all. Hypochondriacs are only nervous people, and, to say a person is nervous is a kind and delicate way of excusing yourself from saying that he or she is ill-tempered, jealous and discontented. I sincerely believe that the emerald monster, jealousy, is the primal cause of hypochondria, and if, like the evil spirits of old, he could be exorcised with all his retinue of evil surmisings, these melancholy people might have quite a jolly life before them. The truth is, this world, as the song says,

> —"Is not so bad world
> As some would like to make it,
> For whether good, or whether bad,
> Depends on how we take it."

Can it be that all the glorious sights and sounds of earth, its countless voices of music, its gorgeous sky-pictures, its birds and brooks, its star-eyed blossoms and fragrance-laden winds, are scattered so profusely around our paths to help us on in grumbling; or are they blessed ministers of God's love, sent to make us cheerful and joyous? I am truly grateful that I for one am naturally light hearted; that all which is fair and bright of earth is not wholly wasted upon me; that I have an eye for its beauty, and an ear for its melody; that the veil of discontent is not always hung between me and the blessed, cheerful sunshine. Though I am never violent in my mirth, I like to smile and be smiled upon. Occasionally I indulge in laughter, and think it by no means unchristian, so, naturally, I have no sympathy with such as deem smiles unorthodox, and a hearty laugh an unpardonable sin. In fine, I admire good nature, cheerfulness, and gayety, with the same intensity that I dislike their antipodes—ill nature, melancholy, and gloom.

So, if nervous, hypochondriacal people *will* live longer than any body else, as they invariably do, let us enact a law that shall transport them, if not with joy, into some distant clime, where they shall be never seen or heard of more. A. M. P.

Fayetteville, N. Y., 1861.

* * *

THE CHARM OF LIFE.

THERE are a thousand things in this world to afflict and sadden,—but oh! how many that are beautiful and good. The world teems with beauty,—with objects that gladden the eye and warm the heart. We might be happy if we would. There are ills that we cannot escape,—the approach of disease and death; of misfortunes; the sundering of the early ties, and the canker-worm of grief,—but the vast majority of evils that beset us might be avoided. The curse of intemperance, interwoven as it is with all the ligaments of society, is one which never strikes but to destroy. There is not one bright page upon the record of its progress,—nothing to shield it from the heartiest execration of the human race. It should not exist,—it must not. Do away with all this,—let wars come to an end, and let friendship, charity, love, purity and kindness mark the intercourse between man and man. We are too selfish, as if the world was made for us alone. How much happier would we be, were we to labor more earnestly to promote each other's good. God has blessed us with a home that is not dark. There is sunshine everywhere,—in the sky, upon the earth,—there would be in most hearts if we would look around us. The storm dies away, and a bright sun shines out. Summer drops her tinted curtains upon the earth, which is very beautiful, when autumn breathes her changing breath upon it. God reigns in Heaven. Murmur not at a being so good, and we can live happier than we do.

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BEAR WITH LITTLE ONES.—Children are undoubtedly very troublesome at times in asking questions, and should, without doubt, be taught not to interrupt conversation in company. But, this resolution made, we question the policy of withholding an answer at any time from the active mind which must find so many unexplained daily and hourly mysteries. They who have either learned to solve these mysteries, or have become indifferent as to an explanation, are not apt to look compassionately enough upon this eager restlessness on the part of children to penetrate causes and trace effects. By giving due attention to those "troublesome questions," a child's *truest* education may be carried on. Have a little patience, then, and sometimes think how welcome to you would be a translator, if you were suddenly dropped into some foreign country where the language was for the most part unintelligible to you, and you were bursting with curiosity about every strange object that met your eye.

* * *

A RECIPE FOR CONTENTMENT.—Try to compute your artificial wants—the number of things which you fancy come under the list of "must haves" merely because other people possess them, and not because you would not be quite as well off and as happy in their absence. Try it for one week, whenever your fingers are tempted to dally with your purse strings. Record in your memorandum book what, in view of this, you sensibly resolve not to buy, and see what a nice little sum will be left you for real necessaries. It is seldom by these last that one is hampered and annoyed. Make the experiment, and see if it is not so. A just economy is not niggardliness; one need not be a miser in avoiding the extravagance of a spendthrift.

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LATENT BEAUTIES.—Nature is bountiful, even in her sternest mood, and not only has her solace for vicissitude, but actually reserves some of her bounties as the necessary accompaniments of pain. Some beauties are only disclosed by destruction. It is death exhibits the dying dolphin's riches in the way of color. Death and decortication are needed to lay bare the exquisite pearl bark of the nautilus, covered in life by a sad and slimy cloak. Fracture alone discloses the prismatic hues of the sober-surfaced flint.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

"LET THE LITTLE ONES COME UNTO ME."

Two little children before me stand,
Clasping each other's dimpled hand.
One has eyes of melting blue,—
The other's are dark as the raven hue,—
One is as meek as the turtle dove,
And she seems a being just made to love.

The other, so bright, with sylph like grace,
Not a spirit of wrath in her beautiful face,
And a lion seems couched in her flashing eye
That chafes and foams if a foe pass by;
But now, as the darlings beside me stand,
Each is pointing above with tiny hand.

They are telling their thoughts of a world above,
And their innocent hearts o'erflow with love;
One calls heaven a beautiful place,
Where we shall see Jesus face to face,
And pretty birds so sweetly sing,
And children float on angel wing.

And now, as I gaze on each darling face,
My mind runs out their future to trace,
And I fain would know if coming life
Shall ever be free from care and strife,
And I wonder if time shall prove to them
A crown of joy—a diadem.

I fain would know if, ever as now,
So pure shall be each lily brow;
If never a grievous thought or care
Shall enter their breasts and harbor there;
My heart goes up to the God above
To keep these lambs with his gentle love.

May the days of their youth in sweet joy pass
With these tiny girls of my infant class,
And to that day when His little fold
Is gathered up like a garner of gold,
May a star gleam on each gentle breast,
And these two buds be with the blest.

Schenectady, 1861. ADELAIDE M. P.

* * *

THE UNITY OF THE BIBLE.

AS in Bethoven's matchless music there runs one idea, worked out through all the changes of measure and of key—now almost hidden, now breaking out in rich natural melody, whispered in the treble, murmured in the bass, dimly suggested in the prelude, but growing clearer and clearer as the work proceeds, winding gradually back till it ends in the key in which it began, and closes in triumphant harmony; so throughout the whole Bible there runs one great idea—man's ruin by sin, and his redemption by grace—in a word, Jesus Christ the Savior. This runs through the Old Testament, that prelude to the New, dimly promised at the fall, and more clearly to Abraham; typified in the ceremonies of the law; all the events of sacred history paving the way for His coming; his descent proved in the genealogies of Ruth and Chronicles; spoken of as Shiloh by Jacob, as the Star by Balaam, as Prophet by Moses; the David of the Psalms; the Redeemer looked for by Job; the Beloved of the Song of Songs. We find Him in the sublime strains of the lofty Isaiah, in the writings of the tender Jeremiah, in the mysteries of the contemplative Ezekiel, in the visions of the beloved Daniel, the great idea growing clearer and clearer as the time drew on. Then the full harmony broke out in the song of the angels—"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." And evangelists and apostles taking up the theme, the strain closes in the same key in which it began; the devil, who troubled the first paradise, forever excluded from the second; man restored to the favor of God, and Jesus Christ the key-note of the whole.—*Evangelist.*

* * *

PRIVATE PRAYER.

THERE is need of public prayer. We should meet with the congregation and offer our united requests to God.

There is need of social prayer. It is difficult to see how one who neglects the prayer-meeting can make progress in religion. The prayer-meeting enables one to carry the spirit of the Sabbath through the week.

Besides these, there is need of private prayer. There are confessions that must be whispered in the ear of God. The man who can stand up before his fellow-man and say, in regard to the requisitions of the law of justice and honor, "All these have I kept," has confessions which can be made only when he has entered into his closet and shut the door. There are requests that can be made only at a private interview. Hence the necessity for private prayer.

Every Christian knows that he has avoided sin in proportion as he has practiced secret prayer. Every one knows that when he has neglected private prayer, his life has been a form. There is no such thing as leading a christian life, as walking with God, without regular habits of private prayer.—*S. S. Times.*

* * *

SMALL STONES NEEDED.

No Christian of few gifts need mourn that he can be of no service in the church. Every one can do something better than anybody else, and it matters not whether the duty be trivial or important, if one has the heart to work. There is weight in the following paragraph:

The living stones of which the church of Christ is constructed, are not necessarily of the same size, nor are they employed to edify the same parts of the building. Did you never see a country house built of stones of all sizes and shapes, from the rock to the pebble, round, square, long, short, all chinked and plastered in together, and forming a warm, substantial building? Just so it is with the members of a community; the big stones make a great show, and go a great deal further towards making up the great structure. But they would look very woe-begone if the little ones should rebel, and conclude they were of no use, and drop out. What a ragged, desolate habitation, fit for owls and bats, they would leave behind them! The stones in the heavenly temple are all *living* stones, but not all *great* ones.

* * *

IMMORTALITY.—At the age of seventy-five, one must, of course, think frequently of death. But this thought never gives me the least uneasiness—I am so fully convinced that the soul is indestructible, and that its activity will continue through eternity. It is like the sun, which seems, to our eyes, to set in night, but is in reality gone to diffuse its light elsewhere. Even while sinking, it remains the same sun.—*Gœthe.*

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THROUGHOUT the Bible it is declared that the things that we are permitted to see in this life are but imitations, glimpses of what we shall see hereafter. "It doth not yet appear what we shall be."

The Reviewer.

Chambers's Encyclopædia: A Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People. On the basis of the latest edition of the German Conversations Lexicon. Illustrated with Maps and Numerous Wood Engravings. Published in Parts, price 15 cents each; to be comprised in six or seven volumes, similar in appearance to the volumes of "Chamber's Information for the People." Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

The twenty-sixth number (closing the Second Volume,) of the abovementioned publication has been received, and the opinions expressed some months since concerning its merits have been fully confirmed. We cannot conceive of any which will prove more practical, or of more general interest in a household library, than this. Its design is to place in every home a dictionary of general knowledge, alphabetically arranged, so that it may be readily consulted. All subjects embraced within its sphere are treated ably, concisely, and truthfully.

— We learn that the Messrs. Appleton, publishers of the Encyclopædia heretofore, have transferred their interests to J. B. Lippincott & Co., of Philadelphia, and that the latter firm have become the exclusive American Publishers. The reputation of the gentlemen who now control this work, and the manner and style of the publications issued by them in the past, is a sufficient guarantee that all contracts with the public will be faithfully and rigidly performed.

The Westminster Review. Reprinted by Leonard Scott & Co., Fulton st., New York.

The April issue of this able Quarterly is before us, presenting its usual amount of excellent reading matter. Ten articles are embraced in its contents, and the subjects discussed are indicated by the Table of Contents, as follows:—Mr. Kingsley on the Study of History; The Sicilian Revolution; Voltaire's Romances and their Moral; The Universities and Scientific Education; Early Intercourse of England and Germany; The Cotton Manufacture; Maine on Ancient Law; Eton; Austria and her Reforms; Contemporary Literature. Dewey is the Agent for Rochester and vicinity.

Cassell's Illustrated Family Bible. Published by Cassell, Petter & Galpin, 37 Park Row, New York, and Ludgate Hill, London.

This is the best and most profusely illustrated edition of the Bible that we have ever seen. It is of quarto size, well printed, on good paper, with excellent explanatory notes, and the wood engravings, which are of the best style of the art, finely illustrate the customs of the Jews and the natural history of the Holy Land. Published in parts of 32 pages, at 15 cents each. Sold in Rochester by L. Hall and E. Darrow & Brother.

The Rebellion Record: A Diary of American Events, 1860-61. Edited by Frank Moore, author of "Diary of the American Revolution." In Three Divisions, viz:—I. Diary of Verified Occurrences. II. Poetry, Anecdotes, and Incidents. III. Documents, etc. New York: G. P. Putnam.

The object of the foregoing work is fully explained by the following paragraph, which we take from the author's "Introductory Note":

"In a digested and systematic shape, it is designed to give a comprehensive history of this struggle; sifting fact from fiction and rumor; presenting the poetical and picturesque aspect, the notable and characteristic incidents, separated from the graver and more important documents. Thus the matter is classified:—I. A Diary of Verified Facts. II. Poetry and Notable Incidents. III. Documents, Speeches, and Extended Narratives. Each division is *separately paged* in each number, so that the volume, when bound, will be similarly divided. It is, of course, not intended to supersede or to keep up with the newspapers, but to subject the newspapers, North and South, to the crucible of *time;* following them at such distance as may be required to *verify and classify all that is best worth preserving* out of the immense mass of leaders, speeches, letters, and reports, which crowd the daily press. This number begins with a Diary of Occurrences, from the meeting of the South Carolina Convention, December 17, 1860. Every important document and extended narrative will be given in consecutive order, numbered, with references from the Diary."

The "Record" will be published in numbers, and issued with all possible regularity. The one before us is neatly printed, and when all is complete, the possessor will have a valuable compendium of the conspiracy. Price, 10 cents per issue. Dewey has it for sale.

The Soldier's Guide. A Complete Manual and Drill Book for the use of Volunteers and Militia. Revised, Corrected, and Adapted to the Discipline of the Soldier of the Present Day. By an Officer in the U. S. Army. [pp. 63.] Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros.

Every half hour, in fact, almost every five minutes, during the day, were we so inclined, we could raise the window of the *sanctum* and witness the evolutions of volunteers, or listen to the shrill notes of the fife and heart-stirring roll of the drum. The North are awake, and on right and left we hear the tramp of men and the word of command. At such a period, and in such a condition of affairs, the appearance of a little volume like the one before us is very opportune. Our people have been so busily engaged in peaceful pursuits, that military matters have received little attention, except in cities, and the "Soldier's Guide" will prove a valuable assistant in the formation of companies, and in the earlier stages of drill, before forming regiments, and being placed under the instruction of capable and experienced officers. The price of the "Guide" is 25 cents, singly, or five copies for $1. From the Publishers.

The Atlantic Monthly.—The May issue of this leading American "Magazine of Literature, Art and Politics," presents a rich table of contents. The commencement of a new romance by Mrs. H. B. Stowe, entitled "Agnes of Sorrento," will attract attention and interest. We are assured that the story is one of love and duty, of joy and trial—and the manner in which it opens indicates that its publication will enhance the brilliant reputation its author has already attained. Among the articles in this number, that entitled "The Prairie State" (Illinois) may be read with interest and profit by every one interested in the history and progress of that vast agricultural empire. The Atlantic is published by Ticknor & Fields, Boston—$3 per annum.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Alhambra. By Washington Irving. Author's Revised Edition. With Illustrations. [12mo.—pp. 425.] New York: G. P. Putnam. Rochester—D. M. Dewey, Subscription Agent.

The Alchemist, or The House of Claes. From the French of Honore De Balzac. Translated by O. W. Wight and F. B. Goodrich. [16mo.—pp. 310.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—Adams & Dabney.

Silas Marner, the Weaver of Raveloe. By the author of "Adam Bede," "The Mill on the Floss," "Scenes of Clerical Life." [pp. 265.] New York: Harper & Brothers. Rochester—Steele, Avery & Co.

Thessalonica; or, The Model Church. A Sketch of Primitive Christianity. By H. L. Hastings, author of "The Great Controversy between God and Man; its Origin, Progress, and End," "Reasons for My Hope," "Pauline Theology," etc. [pp. 188.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—Adams & Dabney.

The Parlor Gardener: A Treatise on the House Culture of Ornamental Plants. Translated from the French, and Adapted to American Use, by Cornelia J. Randolph, of Virginia. [pp. 158.] Boston: J. E. Tilton & Co. Rochester—Steele, Avery & Co.

Kidder's Guide to Apiarian Science.—Being a Practical Treatise in Every Department of Bee Culture and Bee Management: Embracing the Natural History of the Bee, from the earliest period of the World down to the present time; giving the Anatomy and Physiology of the different Species of Bees that constitute a Colony, &c. By K. P. Kidder, Practical Apiarian. [pp. 175.] Burlington, Vt.: Samuel D. Nichols.

Susan and Frankie. By the author of "Sabbath Talks about Jesus," "Sabbath Talks about the Psalms," "Frankie's Book about Bible Men." [pp. 165.] Boston: J. E. Tilton & Co. Rochester—Steele & Co.

The Mexican Papers: Containing the History of the Rise and Decline of Commercial Slavery in America, with reference to the Future of Mexico. By Edward E. Dunbar. [First Series, No. 5. 8vo.—pp. 279.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—Adams & Dabney.

Envelope Series of Tracts.—We have received from Messrs. Steele, Avery & Co. an illustrated package of Twelve Select Tracts, envelope series, issued by J. E. Tilton & Co., of Boston—a firm engaged in the publication of choice books for Sunday School and Family Libraries.

The Young Ruralist.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

MY COUNTRY.

BY MINNIE MINTWOOD.

They have told me oft of Italia's skies,
  Of the warm, rich tints, of the sunset's glow,
Of the mingled gold and crimsoned dyes
  That the day-god paints on the Alpine snow.

They've told me of mountains, rivers, and streams,
  Of castles, and fountains, and lakelets rare,
Of seas in whose waters proud ships' masts gleam,
  Painting a miniature forest there.

They have told me of lands where the choicest pearls,
  Where gold and rare gems deck monarch's brows;
Of a land where the leaf of the palm unfurls,
  Where, at a marble shrine, the heathen bows.

They tell of the bravery of England's sons,
  Of the fairest forms in Georgia's realm,
Of the braves by whom strength were battles won,
  And, dying, remained at the vessel's helm.

Of the bravest and best in other lands,
  I have listened oft with a raptured ear,
And bowed in reverence, with clasped hands,
  At the sight of the Laocoon's grief and fear.

With all the splendor of Nature and Art—
  The greatest and noblest of any band—
Of the fairest form and noblest heart,
  There's naught can outvie America's land!

America's skies o'er all are the bluest,
  Her rivers the longest the sunbeams caress,
Her sons and her daughters the bravest and truest,—
  My country, my home, may God ever bless.

Alfred University, Alleg. Co., N. Y., 1861.

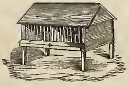
FATTENING FOWLS.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—I have heard of a method of fattening fowls in Europe, which is not practiced here, and as much of our poultry is sold when not in proper condition, please inform a Young Ruralist how this is done, the advantages, profit, &c.

Hennery.

Much more attention is paid to the fattening of poultry, and their proper preparation for market, in Europe, than in this country. The dressing is done much more neatly, the wings tied back so as to expose a plump breast, and, in general, the breast bone is broken, so as to make the breast appear more full. This and other arts for making a fowl look fine, are well known to the trade. The poultry to be seen in European markets, are shown on clean cloths, and care is taken to give an attractive appearance. Then there is a great difference in price. Well-fattened specimens will bring from two to four cents per pound more than those considered of inferior quality. Should a lot be shown in the rough condition common with us, we doubt whether they would find purchasers at any price.

Almost every farmer has on his place one or more "*fattening coops,*" and when it is determined to sell a certain number of fowls, ducks, geese or turkeys, they are placed in these coops for about ten days, and fattened on cooked barley meal, oat meal, &c.



We give an engraving of one of these coops. It is six feet long, six feet high to the ridge of the roof, and two feet eight inches wide, with a partition in the middle, so as to divide the fowls and receive a succession of birds. The feeding trough in front has a lid on the top, to receive the food without disturbing the trough. During summer, this coop stands in a dry, shady spot, in the open air, and in the cold months is carried into some out-house. With two or so of these coops, a few can be kept ready for killing at all times.

Farmers in England take better care of their poultry than we do, and derive more profit from their keeping. This results from two causes,—the high price of the products of the poultry yard, and a wise division of labor. The poultry belong to the wife and daughters, as a general rule, and they therefore take proper care of them, and the profits constitute their "pin-money," making in the course of the year no small sum, and saving the farmer from many calls for cash. Indeed, he sometimes finds it very convenient, in a pinch, to borrow a little from the "good wife." Why not adopt a similar plan here? We believe in this kind of "women's rights."

QUERIES ANSWERED.

Perhaps "*Queries for Minnie Mintwood*" should be left for the individual interrogated to answer, but lest the pernicious insinuations that the queries by "Rusticus" contains may remain unrefuted, I will venture to notice them.

Several inferences are to be drawn from the article in question, which I will briefly state. First, Paul Morphy is judiciously employing his time, and properly using his talents, by devoting both unreservedly to chess playing, because he is the contributor to a popular paper. Second, the character of the paper is determined by the fact that H. W. Beecher and Edward Everett are among its contributors. Third, that the presuming and foolhardy exploits of M. Blondin are praiseworthy, because, forsooth, a foreign prince chooses to witness them.

To lovers of good taste and sound morals, who rejoice in the spread of a pure and healthy literature, as opposed to the sickly and sentimentalism and mock heroism of the popular paper of "Rusticus," who believe that,

"Life is earnest, life is real,"

that it is a heritage too precious to be squandered in trifling amusements, or recklessly exposed by senseless feats; to such the queries of "Rusticus" carry with them their own refutation.

It may require, and doubtless does, talent of a superior, though peculiar order, to excel in chess playing; yet is the talent thus devoted used in that manner that will most benefit the world, and help to make it the wiser and better? Is it true that the character of "one of our most popular papers" is to be correctly inferred from the fact that Beecher and Everett have so far forgotten their respective legitimate callings as to allow their names and productions to appear in its columns? Would one of their articles be a sample selection? Is it not rather to be regretted that the influence of such names and undoubted talent should be lent (or sold) to aid in sustaining a periodical that exhales a pestilential miasma wherever it goes, that is as deadly to the mental taste and moral sense of its readers as the fabled Upas tree to the lives of those that came within the circle of its power. Let the heroic Blondin and the talented Morphy be elsewhere eulogized, let the *New York Ledger* be elsewhere lauded, than in the columns of the Rural.

"Rusticus" truly says "no two think or act just alike." But our actions are a just reflex of our thoughts. Let us think correctly, with our minds enlightened and impressed with a proper sense of the obligations we owe to ourselves, our fellow men, and to our Creator, and our corresponding actions will lead us in a different course from that pursued by those that "Rusticus" indirectly applauds.

Schuyler Falls, N. Y., 1861. Vesta.

THE FLOW OF SAP.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—This question is occasioned by the recent warm "spell of weather." Why should sap run best when it freezes nights? We all know that two or three warm days and nights in succession cause it to stop, and that it commences again after a hard freeze. Who can give the reason for it, or the law which governs it? This may be a question "unworthy the paper it occupies," but I have given it to you in the earnest hope that some of the "sapheads" of your "institution" will elucidate it clearly and intelligibly, without going too deeply into the mysteries of Grey's Botany.

Preston, N. Y., May, 1861. G. A. P.

Will our friend, G. A. P., of Preston, be so good as to settle several preliminary matters, before his question is directly considered, interesting as it is. As he seems to be full of *sap*, though not a *saphead*, will he show us, first, Why sap ascends at all? or what is the motive power? Second, Why it will run out from some trees, when tapped, or a twig or root cut off, and not from others? Third, Why the sap will run *for a time* from the maple, birch, butternut, grape, &c., and then stop discharging while more is ascending? Fourth, What is the influence of the cold on the sap, or, rather, how does the cold or heat affect the flow of the *sap?* If G. A. P. will give satisfactory answers, we may then give him the solution sought for. People are liable to imagine they know all about the flow of sap, and its cause, when it is mere supposition or assumption.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY 18, 1861.

THE WAR.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

How Pickens was Reinforced.

The entire people are in a state of extreme anxiety to hear what has been the condition of affairs at Fort Pickens since the "twenty days" expired. The batteries of flying artillery landed at that point, together with regiments of regulars, cannot be intended for *defence* alone, and it is thought that U. S. troops have taken up the *offensive*, with a view to at least recover such of the national property as was seized by the rebels. Looking at the reinforcement in this light, the following account, by the purser of the *Atlantic*, will prove interesting:

The *Atlantic* sailed on the 7th of April, from New York, with sealed orders. After a voyage of six days, which was somewhat interfered with by adverse winds, she anchored off Key West. After preliminary preparations, she commenced receiving, on the following day, additional troops, ordnance, stores, shell, etc. This labor was continued until the afternoon of the following day (Sunday, April 14), when anchor was weighed and the *Atlantic* steered for the Tortugas, where additional war munitions were taken on board, and on the following day she set sail for Fort Pickens. Up to this point her destination had been kept a secret. When it was disclosed that the mission of the *Atlantic* was the reinforcement of Fort Pickens, the greatest joy was manifested by all on board. Activity and preparation took the place of supineness and uncertainty, and the fact that Fort Pickens could be and should be reinforced was settled that night.

On Tuesday, the 16th, at half past six o'clock P. M., we anchored off Santa Rosa island (Fort Pickens being on its western extremity), four miles from the shore, close by the frigate Sabine, the flag ship of the squadron, Com. Adams. After communicating with the commander and the naval captains present, we took in tow the boats of the fleet, some twenty in number, and after dark weighed anchor and stood in shore, all lights being extinguished, and came to anchor within a mile of Fort Pickens, and in direct range of the guns of Fort McRae and the water batteries, and three-fourths of a mile from the beach, in four fathoms of water. At a quarter past nine the first boat pushed off for the beach, with Col. Brown and Capt. Meigs, who were the first to meet and surprise the intrepid Slemmer and his command. During the embarkation of the troops in the boats the signal for an apprehended attack was made by the sending up of rockets. This signal was repeated, and hastened operations. Captain Vogdes and other officers in the fort were astonished at the rapidity of the reinforcement. Before midnight the majority of officers and soldiers were safely in the fort, and although a heavy surf was running during the night, no accident of any kind occurred.

This successful landing took place three days after the bombardment and surrender of Fort Sumter—a fact well known on the mainland, but not known at Fort Pickens nor by the forces afloat.

Early in the morning of the 17th, the remaining troops were landed, excepting the artillerymen of Captain Barryman's company, who remained to land with their horses. At 8 A. M. we again weighed anchor and stood to the eastward, and anchored about three and a half miles from Fort Pickens, and a half mile from the beach. This point was selected as the best place for landing the horses. The difficult work was commenced in the afternoon, continued during the night, and finished on the morning of the 18th.

The United States steam frigate Powhatan, commanded by Captain David D. Porter, arrived on the afternoon of the 17th, and after communicating with the flag ship, took position just ahead of us in order to cover the future landing. In this movement she was followed by the Brooklyn, Captain Poor, which anchored under our stern. The Wyandot was cruising about—the Sabine, St. Louis and Supply being outside, about three miles distant. The boats of all the ships of the squadron were actively engaged in landing troops and stores, &c., from the night of the 16th until the morning of the 23d. The Illinois, with reinforcements, arrived at midnight on Friday, the 19th, and her troops were landed the next morning.

Seven of the horses were lost: four died on the passage, one was drowned alongside, one had his neck broken in the surf, and one died from exhaustion on reaching the shore. The forage and light artillery were landed simultaneously with the horses. On the 18th the landing of the general cargo of heavy and light ordnance, ammunition, provisions, &c., was fairly commenced and continued, with but partial interruption, until the forenoon of Tuesday, 23d, when she was finally discharged, to the great gratification of all concerned.

The position of the Powhatan and Brooklyn was such that their guns could sweep Santa Rosa Island, and prevent a landing from the mainland, and at the same time shield the hull of the Atlantic. At no time was our steam allowed to go down, so that in case of attack, or gale, or any emergency, we were ready to go off shore. On Monday, Colonel Brown, the commander of the United States forces in Florida, gave to Captain Gray, in Fort Pickens, the necessary certificate and orders and dispatches for Key West. On Tuesday, Captain Meigs, the indefatigable engineer of the expedition, came on board, and at noon we were passing through the fleet, saluting and saluted, on our way to Key West for coal.

Alexandria, Va.—Description of the City.

The telegraph has informed us of the order issued to the U. S. troops to take possession of Alexandria, Va., and that two regiments of foot, with a battery of flying artillery, are marching upon the city. This fact concentrates unusual interest upon the place, hence we give the following article, dated the 6th inst., written by the correspondent of the New York Herald:

I visited Alexandria to-day, as, from its anticipated occupation by United States troops within the next twenty-four hours, it will be a point of great interest. The road crosses the long bridge at Washington, at the extremity of which a company is stationed, and for form's sake sentinels parade to and fro. The passage across the bridge is, however, unobstructed during the day, and wagons are constantly passing and repassing. The bridge is one mile long, is not covered, and about a quarter of a mile of the central part is built of masonry, with low parapets, and resembles a country road. The rest of the bridge is wood. It is about the width of three carriages, and has two draws, one on the Washington end and one on the Virginia side. These are almost constantly opened for the passage of small armed propellers, with which the Potomac swarms. A company of flying artillery is stationed on the bridge every night, near the Virginia shore, with the draw raised in front of them. At the Virginia terminus is a small hotel, where Col. Lee's picket guard was recently quartered. It is now almost deserted.

Alexandria is about eight miles distant. The road is very rough, and ankle deep in mud. A railroad, with flat rails, runs along the carriage road, but Gen. Scott prohibited the running of trains to Alexandria some time ago. The bridge does not virtually cease until within a mile of Alexandria, for the road is constructed through swamps which guard it upon either hand. After leaving the bridge, there is a deep cut, with high overhanging banks, and on the left hand a deep, wide ravine. Between the swamps are interval of rough, hilly country, studded with stunted pines, with a few houses along the way, and those of the roughest kind. The road passes underneath the viaduct of the Cumberland canal. Five miles from the bridge is the toll house, where the fare is collected. Along the route I met several wagons, but none loaded. No men were at work in the fields, and the houses seemed almost uninhabited.

Alexandria presents the usual appearance of an old country town. Most of the houses, scattered along the streets, are built of brick, surrounded with fine gardens. The main street was bowered with trees, and had churches on nearly every square, most of them old and green with ivy. The business street runs from the river at right angels with the main thoroughfare. The stores are small, and in low brick buildings. The other houses of the town are long, one-storied buildings, ancient and dirty looking. Along the river front is a long straggling street, with store-houses and wharves. During an hour's stay in Alexandria I did not see more than thirty men, mostly rough looking fellows, sitting upon doorsteps or lounging about corners. One of them was armed with a heavy double barrelled fowling piece. This was the only sign of war I saw in the city. There were no flags of any kind, no uniforms, no troops, no gatherings of men. The placed seemed deserted. The children ran before to announce the coming of the carriage. The women looked curiously out from windows and doors, men started into the road as if to intercept me, and then walked doggedly back to the sidewalk. No public building had a flag displayed, and the Custom House was closed, as were all the manufactories except the cotton factory, and there no work was going on.

I had interviews with several gentlemen who secretly favored the Union cause, and who informed me that a week ago Col. Lee had six hundred secession troops quartered at the hotels in Alexandria; that many of the towns people joined them; that secession flags were everywhere displayed, and a queer looking flag, of alternate red and white vertical strips, was flying from the Custom House; that troops were drilled and paraded in the main street, stopping and examining all strangers, and taking from stores whatever they wished without paying. Some of these troops were sent to Richmond, some to Harper's Ferry, and the number gradually dwindled to about 60, who were at Alexandria yesterday. Most of them were strangers, the recruits from the town being sent off first.

Yesterday spies came in from Washington with intelligence that a regiment of United States soldiers, with flying artillery, was to reach Alexandria to-day, and last night the secession troops quietly decamped, taking with them all they could carry in the way of valuables and provisions. Many of the townsfolks followed their example. Some went by Railroad to Fairfax, some in wagons, or on horseback or on foot to Richmond and Harper's Ferry; some to a camp which these gentlemen believe is forming at Dumfries. Not a secession soldier was left in town, but many inhabitants who remain expect all sorts of outrages from our troops, and await them with sullen, dogged submission. Some have sworn that they will fire upon the troops from the houses; but this is not probable. Among the secession soldiers there were many from Washington, generally the roughest sort of fellows.

From the condition of the road which I have described, and from the fact that few men acquainted with the country could do great damage to the troops marching through it, I am of the opinion that the United States soldiers will be quietly landed from transports at the Alexandria wharf, and that no resistance will be offered, either to their taking possession of the Custom House or the entire city. If seized, the Government will have control of the Cumberland Canal, and of the Railroad leading directly to the heart of Virginia. If any resistance were offered, it is thought that the guns of the arsenal, four miles distant, could level the town. The troops expect to march to-night.

The South—Impressions of a Traveler.

Benson J. Lossing, the historian of the Revolution, has just returned to his home, from a trip through the South-Western Slave States, and furnishes the Poughkeepsie *Eagle* with some interesting particulars relative to public and private sentiment in that portion of our country. We quote as follows:

Excitement at New Orleans.—On the day of my arrival in New Orleans, I found the citizens much excited, in anticipation of expected news of an attack on Forts Sumter and Pickens. Already some volunteer companies had gone to Pensacola, and others for the same destination were forming. On the morning of the 12th an electrograph from Montgomery announced the actual attack upon Fort Sumter; and at two o'clock that day, while sitting upon the base of a monument erected near Jackson's headquarters at the time of the battle of New Orleans, sketching the plain of Chalmette, where the great conflict occurred, I heard the firing of cannon at the city—seven discharges—which proved to be a *feu de joie* because of the surrender of Fort Sumter. When I returned to the St. Charles, in the evening, the excitement was intense; and all the next day (Sunday) throngs of men were seen in all public places and on the streets, greeting each other. Martial music was heard, and volunteer soldiers were seen on all sides. The surface of society exhibited a scene of unbounded joy. *This was suddenly reversed on Monday, when the telegraph brought a copy of the President's proclamation.* I never saw a more marked change of feeling from that of great delight to great depression than was exhibited within forty-eight hours. The jubilant men on Sunday were thoughtful on Monday; while leading secessionists laughed at the proclamation as powerless to accomplish its intended purposes.

Union Men Silenced.—On the reception of the proclamation, the newspapers opened their heaviest double-shotted batteries upon the President and Cabinet. They were charged with foul perfidy; and in ignorance of the true state of the case, vast numbers of Union men, (*for there are vast numbers of them in the South*) who were daily becoming less and less active, under the pressure of an increased terrorism, were disarmed of all effective argument and rendered silent. But the official correspondence between the government, Major Anderson, and the rebels, if allowed to be published in New Orleans and throughout the South, will make a wonderful change in the opinion of thinking men, for it will be seen that the whole responsibility of inaugurating civil war is laid upon the insolent traitors, and that the Federal Government has acted throughout the whole affair with the utmost forbearance and perfect good faith.

The Traitors' Designs.—It will be seen and felt, by all candid men in the South, that the traitors now ruling the Gulf States with a rod of iron, deceived by the assurances of northern demagogues that vast numbers in the Free States would be found fighting under their banner, and multitudes there would sympathize with them, had determined in any event to humble the Federal Government and to degrade its flag, hoping thereby and by the shedding of human blood, to "fire the southern heart" and dismember the North. This accomplished, the national Capitol was to be seized by the Confederates and their northern auxiliaries, who would be joined by the border States, and then would be accomplished the destruction of the "most beneficial government on the face of the earth," according to the assertion of Alexander H. Stephens, (Vice President of the Confederacy,) only five months ago, before the Georgia Legislature. This was to be followed by a military despotism, whose chief aim and effort would be to push an immediate war of subjugation and annexation to the remote forests of the Isthmus of Darien, and to establish an Empire upon Slavery, with "King Cotton" as autocrat, that might defy the scorn and the bayonets of the civilized world. How egregiously have the conspirators been mistaken!

Politicians Stifling the People.—I have said that my intercourse was with aged men, and afforded me a good opportunity to learn the true state of feeling in the South, and particularly in New Orleans, whose population is cosmopolitan and whose commercial life depends upon the perpetuity of the Union. I feel that I am fully justified in saying that the disunion sentiment, seen on the surface, has no considerable depth—that the people, by the reckless boldness, unscrupulous falsehoods and violent menaces of demagogues, using the press, with its vast power, for their base purposes, are in the hands of the politicians, and at present, powerless.

A gentleman of wealth and high social position, who has lived in New Orleans fifty years, assured me on the day after the President's proclamation was received, that if the loyal states would respond to it, patriotically, by giving the government a strong arm and full purse wherewith to establish the federal authority everywhere within the borders of the Republic, there would go up from Southern lips such a shout for "The Union and the Constitution," as would silence every traitor instantly and forever. "New Orleans," he said, indignantly, "is loyal to the core. Impudence and the fear of brute force, have cheated us of our liberties; but let the people once see the accursed triple-striped flag of the rebels hauled down from the Mint and Custom House, and the Union banner placed there by a hand strong enough to maintain it, and the people of the outraged city will hang every traitor found within its limits." This feeling and assurance were confirmed by others.

The heart of the South is right, but the head is crazed at present by the grossest deceptions, the most subtle sophistries that bear the semblance of truth, and by a general ignorance of the kindly feeling always held and still entertained by the people of the North towards those of the South. The newspapers in the interest of the traitors have for months pursued an apparently concerted system of misrepresentation and the suppression of truth.

An Illustration.—For many weeks the telegraph in the seceded states has been under the control of the arch rebels at Montgomery, and every avenue by which truth might reach the people has been carefully guarded. I will give a single illustration of the way in which the people are wilfully deceived. Under the head of "Special Dispatch by Telegraph," it was announced that Major Ben McCullough was at

Richmond, at the head of ten thousand men, and marching on Washington. On that very day I saw McCullough with the editor of the paper that gave currency to the false report, and was informed that McCullough had been in New Orleans for a week or ten days previously!

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.—My conclusions are that, underlying the secession sentiment that covers the whole surface of society at the South, there is a deep and abiding love of the old Union; silently preying for deliverance from a despotism which has few parallels in the history of the world. It needs only to be informed and assured to become fearfully energetic. Thoroughly unfetter its limbs by the strong arm of federal power, and it will become speedily omnipotent in crushing the eggs of selfish rebellion out of which are hatched the foul serpents of disunion. Let the government give that assurance by quick, powerful and effective action, and convey the truth to a deceived people at the mouth of the cannon, if necessary, and all will be well soon. Yet the government has a foe to meet not to be despised. The chief rebels are desperate and determined men, endowed with superior talents and furnished with many resources. It is now, with them, a question of life or death, honor or dishonor, glory or infamy. Those who are involved in this treason, by taking up arms for them, are in the same desperate condition. And the South is full of brave, and self-sacrificing men. In all emergencies, when the flag of our common country called for defenders, they have shown an alacrity and courage in response, not to be surpassed. In a good cause they make puissant cohorts. Let the government and the Northern States, then, be prepared for a desperate conflict.

Spirit of the Hour.

"A UNITED NORTH."—Under this head the Fayette (N. C.) Presbyterian says:—It is unwise for the South to ignore the fact that it now has no friends at the North. There seems to be as much unity of feeling and purpose *there* as *here*. The people of the Northern States have but "one heart and one purse."

A PROCLAMATION from Gov. Brown, of Georgia, forbids citizens of that State from paying any debts due to Northern creditors. The Governor "invites citizens who are indebted" to the Northern States, to invest their spare cash in Georgia bank stock, or, still better, to "perform a patriotic duty" by giving it to the Southern Confederacy for war purposes. He further forbids the protest of notes by any Georgia banks.

ONE of the Ohio regiments recently elected the Rev. Grenville Moody, a well known Methodist preacher of that State, their chaplain. When their choice had been declared, they sent to Brother Moody to ask him if he would go. He replied, why, yes, he would like to be their chaplain — but with *one* condition, that they would furnish him with a musket — for, said he, "in our Methodist communion we do not believe in faith without works."

THE Stars and Stripes were raised from the top of the Kentucky State House at Frankfort, on Wednesday night week, amid the plaudits of a large and enthusiastic crowd. Public speeches were made by Leslie Coombs, John L. Scott and R. T. Jacob. The Commonwealth says:

> Secession hangs its head in this region of the State, while the Union sentiment is gaining ground every day. Frankfort is Union to the core.

SEVERAL Southern papers give notice that they will receive no more United States postage stamps in payment of subscriptions or advertisements. Probably the vignette of Washington is an unpleasant sight for their eyes.

A NEGRO panic has seized the people of New Orleans. The negro churches have been closed by order of the Mayor, and all assemblages of negroes, slave or free, have been forbidden.

MR. WARODT, of New York, has just returned from Galveston, Texas, where he has been spending the winter, and he says he wholly discredits the report of Governor Houston having declared, at a public meeting held at Galveston recently, that he would oppose Lincoln's preparations for war. At the time he left, the 2d of April, the Union sentiment in and around Galveston was decidedly strong, if not really in the ascendent; and among the most prominent and uncompromising Union men were Gov. Houston and Hon. A. J. Hamilton, the latter having then recently returned home from Congress. He believes that with only 3,000 troops, Gov. Houston could annihilate secession throughout the State, and is confident that he would co-operate with the Administration in its effort to secure that result.

MR. JAMES GORDON BENNETT, JR., has offered the Government the use of his yacht Rebecca. He agrees to fit it up with Dahlgren guns and command it, provided the Government will pay the expenses of seven additional seamen.

OF the U. S. Army and Navy officers who resigned their commissions since the 19th of December, 1860, twenty-seven have placed on file their determination never to serve against the flag of the United States; they say that their resignations were sent in under the pressure of family and friendly solicitations, and not of their own will. A distinguished Commodore is among the number.

AT a meeting held in Ottawa, Ill., the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, The Governor of Virginia has issued his proclamation that no more flour be shipped to the Northern cities; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the citizens of Ottawa, in mass meeting assembled, that Illinois will not furnish Virginia with any more tobacco!

THOMAS H. CLAY, of Kentucky, a son of Henry Clay, has addressed a letter to the citizens of Fayette county, reviewing the action of the Confederate States, and denouncing secession. He says Kentucky has one hundred millions of slave property, which would be destroyed by secession and the establishment of a foreign border on the North.

THE National Intelligencer, referring to the performances of the 8th Massachusetts regiment at Annapolis, in repairing the railway and manning the frigate Constitution, remarks:—"We doubt whether any other single regiment in the country could furnish such a ready contingent to re-construct a steam engine, lay a railroad track, and bend the sails of a man-of-war."

ONE of our leading mercantile houses, says the N. Y. Times, held the note of a Baltimore firm, due on Monday; it was not paid. Yesterday the holders received a check on New York, which the Baltimore firm sent forty miles by a messenger on horseback to be mailed. They state the impossibility of attending to this, or to any business in the last two days of last week, and add, "We pray you not to judge harshly of all of us who live in the midst of the unhappy scenes of the present moment. Give us you kind wishes and sympathies, and suspend your judgment upon our unfortunate position."

PRENTICE says:—If those who are opposed to the Southern Government were to exercise the same license of speech and action in the South that the opposers of the United States Government do here, all the grape vines of the South would be used in hanging them, and the North Carolina tar crop would be speedily exhausted.

THREE car loads of lead for bullets left Chicago for Washington on Friday. The lead is drawn out into wire of the thickness of about half an inch, and coiled. At the Washington Navy Yard it will be passed through a machine which turns out balls by the bushel.

Voice of the Loyal States.

INDIANA.—The Legislature have passed a bill providing for calling into immediate service ten *additional* Regiments of Infantry and one Regiment of Artillery. The quota of six regiments is full and in readiness.

KENTUCKY.—Two regiments have been forwarded to Washington and Maj. Anderson appointed to the command. A full brigade of five regiments is in process of organization.

OHIO.—Eighty-one thousand men have offered their services to Governor Dennison, thirty-one thousand of whom have been assured that their services may be needed. Ohio has thus offered six thousand more than the whole number called for by the President. The Governor issued, on Monday week, an order, calling for the organization of a reserve corps of *one hundred thousand men*, to be subject to instant transfer to active service. Arms are not to be issued, but there are enough private arms in the State to be used for purposes of drill, and until the companies shall be called upon for active duty. The order explains clearly the manner of proceeding to raise companies for this reserve force, the number of companies to which each county is entitled, and other matters pertaining to the organization of this immense "Home Guard."

MISSOURI.—Four full regiments of volunteers have been mustered into the United States service, and a fifth is being formed. The Third and Fourth regiments, and part of the Second, are encamped on the arsenal grounds. The first is quartered at Jefferson Barracks, twelve miles below St. Louis, and a part of the Second is stationed at the Marine hospital, about a mile below the arsenal. Several buildings outside the arsenal walls are occupied by United States troops, and heavy turf breastworks, pierced for four cannon, have been erected, which command the vicinity. Gen. Legett has been elected Colonel of the Third regiment, and Gen. Schuliner Colonel of the Ninth.

CONNECTICUT.—The Legislature of Connecticut convened at Hartford, May 1st. The State is out of debt and owns some $400,000 bank stock. Governor Buckingham, in his message, recommends an efficient State militia; says that forty-one volunteer companies have already been accepted, and that the 5th regiment will be full in a few days. The regiments will not leave the State until they are fully equipped with camp and baggage trains, and prepared to take care of themselves. On all questions the Legislature will make liberal appropriations for war purposes.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The House has passed, by unanimous vote, the bill creating the three million loan. It raises 15 regiments beyond both requisitions of the Government, making a total of 55. Ninety-two members of the House, out of 100, were present. An act for the immediate relief of the volunteers now in service, and to pay the bills before the Quarter-Master's Department was organized, was passed by both Houses to-day, and signed by the Governor.

NEW JERSEY.—Resolutions thanking the Governor for the energy he has displayed in raising the quota of troops for the State, and expressing the strong confidence reposed in his judgment and patriotism and ability, and pledging New Jersey to raise all her force to maintain the Union and Constitution, and thanking the President for the energy displayed in the defence of the Union, were introduced in the Senate, and passed to-day by unanimous vote. A bill pledging the State for $1,000,000 for war purposes was also passed.

NEBRASKA.—Gov. Black has issued a proclamation recommending a thorough volunteer organization throughout the Territory. He has already supplied companies with arms and equipments, and seems determined to place Nebraska in the best possible condition of defence. It is supposed that at least one regiment of Nebraska will be mustered into the service of the United States for home defence. Nebraska is a unit for the Constitution and the Union.

NEW YORK.—The following General Order has just been issued by the Adjutant General:

HEAD QUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK, }
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE. }
ALBANY, May 7, 1861.

General Orders, No. 2.

The Commander-in-Chief desires to express his gratification at the alacrity and self-sacrificing spirit displayed by his fellow-citizens throughout the State, in responding to the several calls made for volunteers to serve in the country's defence, and the maintenance of law and order in the land. Although in an incredibly short time the complement of the 30,000 have offered their services, the zeal is unabated; but the maximum number allowed by the act of April 16, 1861, having been raised in response to the proclamation of the 18th and 24th of April, and to General Orders numbers 13 and 17, issued in conformity thereto, the Commander-in-Chief feels it his duty to make this public announcement of the fact, in order that no further expenditure of time or means may be uselessly incurred by the patriotic citizens of the State, in further effort for organization.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief,
J. MEREDITH READ, JR.,
Adjutant General.

The State Military Board, a few days since, adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That advertisement be issued for proposals, to be opened on the 20th inst., for furnishing, according to samples in the Quarter-Master General's Office, the following articles:

15,000 wool army cloth overcoats.
15,000 blue woolen jackets.
15,000 pairs of army cloth pantaloons.
30,000 pairs woolen stockings.
30,000 woolen shirts.
30,000 pair woolen drawers.
15,000 pairs shoes.
15,000 caps.
15,000 blankets.

WESTERN VIRGINIA.—The 9th inst. was observed as a fast day, at Wheeling. Patriotic sermons were delivered in 9 out of the 12 churches. The Methodist church was decorated with the Stars and Stripes. Rev. Mr. Smith delivered an address worthy of Beecher. He said he would hold no fellowship with traitors. If there was a secessionist in his congregation he wanted him to leave.

The Herald's special Wheeling dispatch of the 10th inst., says that thirty counties will be represented in the Convention Monday, 13th. Two companies have been mustered into United States service at Wheeling. Two thousand Maynard rifles have been sent there by government. The Convention will probably elect a Governor, Members of the Legislature, U. S. Senators and Representatives, and to act in all respects as if a sovereign State. Secessionists are invited to leave.

Exciting News from St. Louis.

THE secessionists, under command of Gen. Frost, formed a camp in St. Louis, on the 10th inst., with the avowed purpose of investing that city. There are about 8,000 Union volunteers in the city, and upon ascertaining the fact of encampment, Capt. Lyon, of the U. S. army, marched upon them with some 6,000 volunteers, surrounded the camp, and planted eight field pieces on the adjoining eminences. He then sent the following for their consideration:

"HEAD QUARTERS U. S. TROOPS, }
ST. LOUIS, May 10. }

To Gen. D. M. Frost, Sir:—Your command is regarded as evidently hostile towards the government of the United States. It is for the most part made up of those secessionists who have openly avowed their hostility to the General Government, and have been plotting at the seizure of its property, and the overthrow of its authority. You are openly in communication with the so-called Southern Confederacy, which is now at war with the United States, and you are receiving at your camp from the said Confederacy, under its flag, large supplies of materials of war, most of which is known to be the property of the United States. These extraordinary preparations plainly indicate none other than the well known purpose of the Governor of this State, under whose orders you are acting, and whose purpose, recently communicated to the Legislature, has just been responded to by that body in the most unparalleled legislation, having in direct view hostilities to the General Government, and co-operating with its enemies.

In view of these considerations and your failure to disperse in obedience to the proclamation of the President, and of the necessity of State policy and welfare, and obligations imposed upon me by instructions from Washington, it is my duty to demand, and I do hereby demand of you an immediate surrender of your command, with no other conditions than that all persons surrendering under this demand shall be humanely and kindly treated.

Believing myself prepared to enforce the demand, one half hour's time before doing so will be allowed for your compliance therewith.
N. LYON,
Captain 2d Infantry, Commanding Troops."

Gen. Frost says this letter was not received until his camp was surrounded by United States troops. He then replied that the encampment was organized under the law of the State simply for organizing the volunteer militia of this district. Not expecting any demonstration, he was unprepared successfully to resist attack. Therefore he accepted the terms specified, and surrendered his command, about 800 men then in camp, a large number being in the city on leave. They then laid down their arms and were escorted to the city as prisoners of war.

Just before the troops left for the city, and the State troops were drawn up in two lines of volunteers, several rocks were thrown at the volunteers, and a few pistol shots fired by excited parties in the surrounding crowd, which was composed of a large number of citizens, including many women. One shot took effect in the leg of Captain Blontowiski, and as he fell he gave the word to fire, which was obeyed by some two or three companies, resulting in the death of upwards of twenty persons, including two women and several children, and badly wounding several others.

On the following night, St. Louis was again made the scene of a terrible tragedy. About six o'clock a large body of Home Guards entered the city through Fifth street, from the arsenal, where they had been enlisted during the day and furnished with arms. On reaching Walnut street the troops turned westward, a large crowd lining the pavements to witness their progress at the corner of Fifth street, where parties among spectators began hooting, hissing, and otherwise abusing the companies as they passed, and a boy about fourteen years old discharged a pistol into the ranks. Part of the rear company immediately turned and fired upon the crowd, and the whole column was instantly in confusion, breaking their ranks and discharging muskets down their own line and among the people on the side walks. A shower of balls for a few minutes was terrible, the bullets flying in every direction.

The utmost confusion and consternation prevailed, spectators flying in all directions, and but for the random firing of the troops, scores of people must have been killed. As most of the firing was directed down their own ranks, the troops suffered severely, four of their number being instantly killed and several wounded. A considerable number, it is not yet known how many, of citizens were killed in the melee.

Affairs at Washington.

THE President has issued a proclamation setting forth that insurrection exists in the State of Florida, by which the lives, liberties, and property of loyal citizens are endangered, and it is deemed proper that all lawful measures should be taken for the protection of such citizens and all officers in the United States in discharge of their public duties. The President directs the commanders of the forces of the United States, on the Florida coast, to permit no person to exercise any office of authority upon the islands of Key West, the Tortugas and Santa Rosa, which may be inconsistent with the laws and Constitution of the United States; authorizing them at the same time, if they shall find it necessary, to suspend the writ of habeas corpus, and to remove from the vicinity all dangerous or suspected persons.

Messrs. Gallatin & Son, from the New York Chamber of Commerce, were in consultation with Secretary Chase on Friday about the new loan, and on Saturday the Secretary invited offers for the nine millions undisposed of under the act of February, which does not restrict offers to par. This call requires ten days' advertisement only. It is understood that the Secretary, though authorized to reject offers below par, and resort to treasury notes, will accept offers at or about the current market rate, and not resort to treasury notes until after the expiration of the thirty days' advertisement for the balance of the loan, say fourteen million dollars under the act of last June.

The preparations having been completed for the effective blockade of the Virginia waters, Capt. Pendergrast has given the precautionary notice of 15 days for all vessels to leave the ports of that State which enter with or without cargoes. Several of the Foreign Ministers and some of our own countrymen have asked for an extension of the time, but this in every case has been refused. The order will be adhered to impartially.

Certain persons, though representing themselves as Union men, have been denied the privilege of forwarding locomotives to Tennessee, for the reason, among others, that such railroad machinery might be used in the transportation of hostile troops. The Government also takes care that coal necessary for steam purposes shall not be transported to the disloyal States.

Much anxiety is manifested to learn what distribution will be made among the States of the forces to constitute 39 regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, making the minimum aggregate 34,500, and a maximum of 42,034, called into service under the proclamation to serve three years. The information will soon be publicly announced. The plan of organization has been prepared. Each regiment of infantry will consist of ten companies with a minimum aggregate of 880, and a maximum aggregate of 1,040, officers and men. These may be mustered in by companies or squadrons. The company commissioned officers will be appointed by the Governor of the State furnishing it, and the non-commissioned officers, until the company shall be embodied in a regiment, will be appointed by the Captain, afterwards by the Colonel on the recommendation of the Captain. The field officers will be appointed by the Governor of the State which furnishes the regiment.

A plan of organization has also been prepared for the increase of the force of the regular army as directed by the President. A promotion from the ranks similar to that of the volunteers is provided for. The infantry will consist of eight regiments, three battalions each. The cavalry of one regiment; six squadrons of artillery, one regiment of eight batteries, with an aggregate minimum of 18,000, or a maximum of nearly 23,000, officers and men.

In addition to the new Military Departments of Washington, Annapolis, and Pennsylvania, the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois will constitute a fourth soon, subdivided into several others, to be called the Department of Ohio. Major Gen. McClelland of the Ohio volunteers, is assigned to its command. Head Quarters at Cincinnati.

The President, by General Order, directs that all officers of the army, except those who have entered the service since the 1st of April, take and subscribe anew the oath of allegiance to the United States as set forth in the 10th article of war.

It is calculated that at least 300,000 volunteers have tendered their services to the Government. Of the large number of troops in Washington, but few are in the hospital, and they receive the best attention. The inexperienced volunteers are practically and steadily subjected to a rigid drill, and already show marked improvement in the manual exercise.

The Adjutant General publicly announces, in response to numerous applications for military books, that the only works distributed from his office are those of tactical instructions, and of these the supply is so nearly exhausted as to be insufficient for the supply of the volunteers actually mustered into service.

The railroad to Washington is all clear, and constant communication is kept up. A large train of cars arrived at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 10th, with the troops, who uninterruptedly passed through Baltimore.

It is definitely ascertained that commissioned navy officers have gone to Europe for the purpose of buying steamers and other vessels for the United States Government.

Prominent men from all parts of the country are constantly coming to Washington for the purpose of tendering aid. Over 50 vessels have already been offered from the New England States to be armed and equipped at the owners' expense. Parties representing the owners of propellers navigating the Northern lakes, propose to bring their crafts down the St. Lawrence to the Atlantic shore, and assist in the blockade of the Southern ports.

The War Department received a dispatch from Gen. Butler, stating that he had just seized the famous steam gun built by Ross Winans, of Baltimore, who attempted to send it to Harper's Ferry for the Virginians.

Secretary Cameron replied:

"Compliments of the Government to Gen. Butler and command. Seize everything contraband being sent to the rebels."

Orders will be issued to arrest Winans, who, if he is caught, will be treated summarily. He is the same man who gave $500,000 to aid secessionists in the work of treason. Orders from the War Department for the treatment of all traitors or abettors — very strict and vigorous — have been transmitted to every officer in commission.

Messages have been passing constantly between the Government and Cairo. Trouble is anticipated there every night. Messages have been dispatched to Cairo and other points, ordering the concentration of a large body of Western troops at that point.

The President is receiving hearty responses from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Maryland. A brigade from each of these States will be seen in the field.

The Government has just been put in possession of important information in regard to the movements and operations of the rebel army. Their exact motive has not yet transpired, but the Government is taking advantage of it, and will be ready in three or four days to meet the Confederate forces at every point. It appears that a large force is now marching from the South to Harper's Ferry, and from thence will attempt to force their way into Pennsylvania. Their object is to draw off a portion of the force concentrating at Washington, and attack them both at the same time.

The information the Government is in possession of is highly important and entirely reliable, as it comes from a source in the South that is fully posted. The Government has now parties in nearly every Southern State, who keep them thoroughly advised of everything that is going on. It is only recently that they have had these facilities.

The morning of the 7th inst. was the witness to a scene in Washington which will never be forgotten by the American patriot. At 10 o'clock A. M., on that day, Lieut. General Scott sent a messenger to Major General George C. Thomas, requesting him to call at his office in his capacity as Notary, and administer to him and his staff the "Oath of allegiance to the United States." This was accordingly done, and the war-worn veteran of a hundred battles, towering above all around, renewed, with the Bible in hand, that solemn obligation, "to bear true allegiance to the United States of America, and to serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatever, and observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over (me) him, according to the rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States."

The oath was taken also by Lieut. Colonel E. C. Townsend, Lieut. Col. G. W. Cullom, Col. Van Rensselaer, Col. Lorenzo Thomas, Adjt. Gen. Major McDowell, Major John F. Lee, and Capts. Gauche, and J. B. Fry.

Whatever may have been the object in thus renewing the oath of allegiance, the one great effect is already evident in having given the death blow to the hopes of those traitors who would make the people believe that our great Chief would falter for a moment in his loyalty to the stars and stripes of the American Union.

The ceremony, which was grand and solemn, concluded with the following remark:—"Gen Thomas, little could you have thought when I knew you as a cadet at West Point, that you would ever have been called upon to administer the oath of allegiance to me."

The News Condenser.

— Ole Bull has reappeared in London.

— Portugal has acknowledged the new Italian kingdom.

— Five persons have been bitten in Ogle county, Ill., by a mad dog.

— There are rumors of an extended Italian loan of £8,000,000 sterling.

— In Jutland, where one person dies of starvation, 99 die of over eating.

— Immense damage and loss of life have occurred in Java, from the floods.

— In the ranks of the Rhode Island Regiment is a private worth $600,000.

— Massachusetts has one hundred and eighty five thousand enrolled militia.

— Richard Chenery has been appointed Navy Yard Agent at San Francisco.

— Parties are in Washington from Kentucky and Maryland offering volunteers.

— By the new postal arrangement, all drop letters are required to be prepaid.

— The Duchess of Kent left personal property to the amount of $150,000 only.

— The foreign vote of this country is estimated to be about one-twelfth of the whole.

— The Galt (C. W.) Reporter says the wheat prospects in that region are unsatisfactory.

— On a recent afternoon, the police counted 3,861 flags flying in the streets of Boston.

— Mrs. Senator Wigfall and sister have taken a cottage for the summer in Dorchester, Mass.

— The court house at Helena, Ark., was burned to the ground on Thursday night week.

— Five hundred slaves are reported to have crossed the Pennsylvania line during last week.

— From 600 to 700 acres of woodland were burnt over in Charlestown, R. I., on Friday week.

— The French and English have been fighting the negroes on the river Gambia, Coast of Africa.

Governor Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, has just taken a house at Washington for four years.

— The break in the Chenango canal, near Binghamton, has been repaired, and navigation resumed.

— The first organ ever heard in public worship, in this country, was sent from London in 1714.

— Western Virginia, it is said, has already enrolled 2,000 men for the service of the United States.

— The Illinois Legislature has passed a bill directing the postponement of suits against volunteers.

— Ten of the Star of the West's crew passed through Chicago, Monday week, on their way East.

— Gov. Morgan has liberated 70 prisoners, and restored 52 persons to citizenship during the past year.

— At Macon, Ga., all persons tried in court for assault and battery are sentenced to enlist in the army.

— Jeff. Davis allows the federal vessels, engaged in lawful commerce, 30 days to return to their homes.

— The Philadelphia firemen who have volunteered their services to the Government, number 1,310 men.

— The patriotic butchers of Philadelphia have, for three weeks, fed four new military companies with meat.

— The war demand for cloth is so great that the Lowell mills are running night and day, Sundays included.

— After a fire on the premises of a London silversmith, £20,000 worth of valuables were dug from the ruins.

— The Hon. Edmund Baldwin, a member of the last Assembly, from Lewis Co., died at Lowville, on the 3d inst.

— A number of philosophical women recently celebrated in Germany, the 2389th anniversary of the birth of Plato.

— A tax of $50 is required by the municipal law to be paid on each free negro brought into the District of Columbia.

— Warlike preparations in Spain, on the largest scale, are spoken of, and the expenditure of £20,000,000 is rumored.

— During the year 1860 there were seven hundred and seventy-two persons confined in the Paris prisons for debt.

— Upward of 600 ladies have applied at the State House, in Boston, for permission to serve as nurses at the seat of war.

— Seven eighths of the 8th Regiment of Massachusetts, officers and privates, including the Colonel, are shoemakers.

— The name of the Hon. John J. Crittenden stands first on the list of privates in the Home Guard of Frankfort, Ky.

— One hundred and forty-one of the volunteers in the Onondaga Regiment, were members of the fire department.

— It is estimated that upwards of two hundred of the Rochester volunteers were members of the fire department.

— The steamer Lioness, a privateer of the Confederate States, was captured in the Chesapeake Bay, a few days since.

— The Hungarians of New York city are moving in the matter of rendering assistance in sustaining the government.

— Vice President Hamlin has gone to Maine to provide for the transportation of the troops of that State to Washington.

— The San Francisco Herald says the Chinese population of California at the present moment may be set down at 49,000.

— Mendoza, in Chili, was shaken to pieces by an earthquake on the 20th of March, whereby 8000 persons were killed.

— Horsewhipping a secessionist has been decided by a jury in Wyoming Co., Penn., as a perfectly legal and constitutional act.

— The Germanic Diet has provisionally voted one million florins for the arming of the federal fortresses with rifled cannon.

— A company of Harvard students have taken charge of the State Arsenal at Cambridge, Mass., by order of Governor Andrew.

— The convicts in the Massachusetts State Prison are engaged in manufacturing articles for the Massachusetts volunteers.

— Lieut. Maury, connected with the Coast Survey and other scientific departments of the government, has turned out a traitor.

— "President" Jeff. Davis' salary is $25,000, and the members of the Southern "Congress" voted themselves only $300 per year.

— The Ionian Islands are almost in a state of insurrection, in consequence of the popular wish to be united to the kingdom of Greece.

— On the river Darling, in Australia, is a district of country many thousand miles in extent, admirably adapted to the raising of cotton.

— Queen Victoria has sunk into settled melancholy since the death of her mother, and it is feared she will not recover her mind.

— The newspapers are poking fun at the new tariff; some term it the more ill, and others the im morill and the de-morrill-izing tariff.

— Palmer, the Sculptor, has offered to make a statue in marble of the member of the Utica corps who will "bag" Wigfall or Jeff. Davis.

— Men are so anxious to enlist at Pittsburg, that it is frequent to have $50 offered for a place as a private in one of the accepted companies.

— The town of Plymouth, Sheboygan Co., Wis., offers $16 per month, in addition to the government pay, to the volunteers who go from that town.

— Right Rev. Benjamin T. Onderdonk, late Episcopal Bishop of New York, died on Tuesday week, in New York city, at the age of seventy years.

— A severe gale of wind passed over St. Louis, Sunday week, damaging several buildings considerably, and driving four steamers from their wharves.

— The Massachusetts soldiers killed at Baltimore, were Luther C. Ladd and Addison O. Whitney, of Lowell, and Sumner H. Needham, of Lawrence.

— The commander of Fort Monroe has profited by the Sumter affair. All the wooden barracks of Monroe have been torn out, and none but fire-proof ones left.

To All Our Readers.

☞ *Back Numbers of this Volume Free!* ☜

To all who subscribe for the RURAL NEW-YORKER from May 1st to end of the Year and Volume—eight months—we will, if desired, send the back numbers (from Jan'y 1st) *Free.* This offer (to be continued for a month, and perhaps until July 1st,) will enable many who were unable to subscribe at the beginning of the year, or later, to secure the entire volume at *less than cost of publication.*

☞ POSTAGE STAMPS are taken at par on subscriptions, and greatly preferred to Western or other uncurrent money.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

RURAL NEW-YORKER OFFICE,
Rochester, May 14, 1861.

OUR market exhibits but little activity, and the changes are few. Rye has declined and we do not hear of transactions beyond 55 cents per bushel of 60 pounds. Oats are unchanged in price, but scarce, and the demand is such that a start may be expected unless the crop is put on sale.

MEATS.—Mutton is in excellent demand and readily commands 5@6½ cents per pound. Hams have put on 50 cents per 100 pounds during the week.

THE DAIRY.—Butter is getting somewhat plenty and a slight falling off in rates is noticeable.

POTATOES have put on at least 12½ cents per bushel. Choice mercenaries selling at prices ranging from $1,50 to $1,75 per barrel, and are very scarce.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN		Eggs, dozen	10@10c
Flour, winter wheat,	$5,00@6,50	Honey, box	12@14
Flour, spring do,	5,00@5,00	Candles, box	11@12
Flour, buckwheat,	0,00@2,00	Candles, extra	13@13
Meal, Indian	@1,00	FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Wheat, Genesee,	1,10@1,30	Apples, bushel	25@38c
Best white Canada,	0,00@1 37	Apples, dried, ₰ lb	2@2½
Corn, old	0@45c	Peaches, dried, ₰ lb	9@10
Corn, new	00@40	Cherries, dried	9@10
Rye, 60 lbs. ₰ bush	55@56	Plums, dried	8@9
Oats, by weight,	23@25	Potatoes,	50@63
Barley,	50@55	HIDES AND SKINS.	
Buckwheat,	35@40	Slaughter,	4 @ 4½
Beans	85c@$1,13	Calf,	7 @ 7
MEATS		Sheep Pelts	50@1 50
Pork, Mess	$17,50@18,00	Lamb Pelts	50@58
Pork, clear	20 00@20,00	SEEDS	
Pork, cwt	5,00@6,00	Clover, bushel	$4 63@5 00
Beef, cwt	4,00@6 00	Timothy,	2,50@3,00
Spring lambs, each,	1,50@2,00	SUNDRIES	
Mutton, carcass	5@6½c	Wood, hard	$3,00@5,00
Hams, smoked	10½@11	Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Shoulders,	7@7½	Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Chickens,	9@10	Coal, Scranton	5,75@6,00
Turkeys	10@11	Coal, Pittston	5,75@6,00
Geese,	40@50	Coal, Shamokin	5,75@6,00
Ducks ₰ pair	38@44	Coal, Char.	10@12½
DAIRY, &c.		Salt, bbl	0,00@1,62
Butter, roll	14@15	Hay, ton	8,00@13,00
Butter, firkin	13@15	Straw, ton	0 00@ 0,00
Cheese,	9@11	Wool, ₰ lb	30@50c
Lard, tried	10@10½	Whitefish, half bbl.	4,25@4,50
Tallow, rough	5½@ 6	Codfish, ₰ quintal	4,50@5,00
Tallow, tried	8 @ 8½	Trout, half bbl.	4,00@4,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, May 13.—FLOUR—Market without quotable change. Sales at $5,00@5,15 for superfine State, $5,20@5,25 for extra do, $5,00@5,15 for superfine Western, $5,30@5,50 for common to medium extra do, $5,00@5,85 for inferior to good extra round hoop Ohio. Canadian quiet and unchanged. Sales at $5,25@7,50.

GRAIN—Wheat, market a shade firmer, with a good export demand, sales at $1,20@1 23 for good Milwaukee club, $1,30 for winter red Western, $1,75 for choice white Michigan, $1,35@1-45 for white Canada. Rye quiet and steady at 68c. Barley dull and heavy at 57@68c. Corn, market without important change; sales at 58c for old mixed Western, delivered, and 56c for new Jersey yellow. Oats dull at 32@33½c for State, Western, and Canadian.

PROVISIONS—Pork market very firm, with sales at $17,75 for mess, $13,25 for prime. Lard firm and in good request, sales last Saturday evening at 9@10c. Butter in fair request at 12@15c for Ohio, and 13@16c for State. Cheese steady at 4@9c.

ASHES—The inquiry for both kinds and the supply are limited, sales of 31 bbls, at $5,62½ for Pots and Pearls.

HOPS—The market is firmer for good parcels, with sales to consumers of 250 bales at 16@25c. About 800 bales 1860, and 750 do '59's, 85c have been shipped for London, of the former, 450 were on owners' account, and 150 sold at 16@17 cents, common quality; the old were mostly on owner's account. The quantity of 1860 on hand is not to exceed 7,600 bales, which is not by considerable equal to our own consumption during ordinary seasons, still the brewers buy only as they need, being under the impression that many large parcels will be returned from England.

SEEDS—We note sales of 50 bags Clover Seed on private terms, and 250 bags at 7½@8¼c. The stock is nearly exhausted, and what remains is held for better prices. Timothy Seed is quiet at $2,00@2,50 ₰ bushel.

ALBANY, May 13.—FLOUR AND MEAL—The stock of Flour here is much reduced and the supplies are very moderate. For favorite and extra the market is quite buoyant with an active demand, but the business is somewhat checked by the scanty supply. Other descriptions rule steady, but the sales are small owing to the limited stock.

Common to good State,	$5,00@5,10
Fancy and extra State,	5,22@5,60
Common to good Western,	5,30@5,78
Extra Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, &c.,	5,90@7,00
Extra Ohio,	6,00@7,25
Common Canadian,	5,25@5 75
Extra Canadian,	5,85@7,25
Fancy Genesee,	6,00@6,25
Extra Genesee and city brands,	6 25@7 50
Extra Kentucky,	6,60@7,25

Corn meal is steady at $1,18¾@1,31 ₰ 100 lbs.

GRAIN—Wheat quiet but steady. For corn the market is rather easier and the demand limited, sales round yellow in lots at 57c. Rye and Barley quiet. The market is less active for Oats and rather heavy, sales Northern State at 32c, afloat.

SEED—A quiet market for Clover at previous prices. Timothy rules dull.

FEED—The supply is fair and the market is heavy without sales of moment.

BUFFALO, May 14.—FLOUR—The rainy weather yesterday exercised, as it would seem, an injurious effect upon business, and but little was done on the dock. Sales of flour amounted to about 650 bbls, at $4 75 for extra State, $5 for choice extra Wisconsin, $5@5 25 for choice extra Indiana and Ohio, $5,75@6,12½ for the range of double extras.

GRAIN—Wheat, market in the afternoon somewhat active; sales No 1 Milwaukee club at 95c, No. 2 Chicago spring at 92c, and choice white Canadian at $1,30. Corn dull. The only sale reported was that of 6,500 bushels on private terms. Nothing doing in other grains.

PROVISIONS dull, and no sales.

TORONTO, May 11.—FLOUR—There has continued to be a moderately active inquiry for the higher grades of flour for American account. The greater part of the stock of Extras in store here has changed hands at satisfactory prices, and now for Fancies there is a good inquiry. Superfine is comparatively dull, though firmly held. The trade for the week has been pretty brisk, though towards the close the market is hardly so strong. Double Extra $6,00@6,50, Fancy is more sought for, and lots nearest approaching to extras are worth from $4 90@5-25. Superfine is not buoyant, indeed is dull at $4 65@4.70. For several lots, however, $4.60 was offered and refused. Oatmeal is plentiful at $3,60@3.75.

GRAIN—From farmers the deliveries of winter wheat have been scanty, as might have been expected, taking into account the wet weather, the bad roads and the busy season. The receipts from teams and cars here averaged about 700 bushels per day. Good white winter wheat has been in good request, and from $1 22@1 25 has been freely paid for the best lots. For inferior and medium lots $1 18@1 22 has been the range per bush. An active feeling pervades the market, and the week closes quite favorable to the producer. Spring wheat has also been in good demand at $1 for the principal samples, although very little has been bought below 97c. per bushel. Barley has been dull with only limited supplies at 50@55c. Brewers will pay the latter freely for a good sample. Peas are without change. With limited deliveries they are steady at 48@50c per bushel. Oats are not offered freely, and the market is rather more firm at 25@27c per bushel.—*Globe.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, May 8.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality,	$8,00@9,00
Ordinary quality,	7,50@8,00
Common quality,	6,50@7,00
Inferior quality,	6,00@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality,	$55,00@60 00
Ordinary quality,	40,00@50 00
Common quality,	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality,	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ₰ lb	6 @6½c
Ordinary quality,	4½@5 c
Common quality,	4 @4½c
Inferior quality,	3 @3½c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality,	$5,00@6,00
Ordinary quality,	4,00@4 50
Common quality,	3,50@4,00
Inferior quality,	3,00@3,25
SWINE.	
First quality,	4¾@4⅞c
Other qualities,	3½@4 c

ALBANY, May 13.—BEEVES—The market is again largely supplied, the excess of receipts over last week being some 300 head, while the cattle will average as heavy as then. However, notwithstanding the large number on sale, the market opened buoyantly and at advancing rates. The cattle are heavy, and for the most part are in good condition for market, but while there are few of the lowest grade, it is also to be remarked that there are none that can be classed as strictly premium.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor week last year.
Cattle,	3,951	3,141	3,776
Sheep,	1,231	1,195	1,092
Hogs,	23	135	1,160

PRICES—At least three-fourths of the receipts have changed hands, the market ruling firm throughout at the following quotations:

	This week.	Last week.
Premium	5 @ c	5 @ c
Extra	4½@4⅞c	4½@4⅞c
First quality	4 @4¼c	3¾@4¼c
Second quality	3½@3¾c	3½@3¾c
Third quality	3 @3¼c	2¾@3 c

TORONTO, May 11.—BEEF—The demand is moderately active with liberal supplies. We quote first class cattle, on foot, at $5 ₰ 100 lbs., second class, $4 50@5,00, and inferior at $4,00.

SHEEP are in demand at $5@7 each. Lambs scarce at $2@2,50.

HIDES—Beef hides $3,50@4 ₰ 100 lbs., calf skins 8@9c. ₰ lb., sheep skins 75c@$1 each, lamb skins 12½@15c. each.

CALVES—Plentiful at $3@5 each.—*Globe.*

CAMBRIDGE, May 8.—At market 277 cattle, about 250 beeves and 27 stores, consisting of working oxen, cows, and one, two and three years old.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $4,75@7,00; first quality, $6,50@0,00; second quality, $5,75@0,00; third quality, $4,25; ordinary quality, $0,00.

WORKING OXEN—$90, $115@175.

COWS AND CALVES—$30, $40@60.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0; two years old, $15@19; three years old, $17@19.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—1,101 at market. Prices—In lots $1 75@2,25, extra and selections, $3,25@5,50 each. Spring Lambs from $3@5 each.

PELTS—25c@$1,25 each.

TALLOW—6½@7c ₰ lb.

HIDES—4½@5c ₰ lb. CALF SKINS—8@9c ₰ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@6.

BRIGHTON, May 9.—At market—900 Beef Cattle, 65 stores, 1,200 Sheep and Lambs, and 3,000 Swine.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices, extra, $7,25@0,00, 1st quality, $7,00@0,00; 2d do, $4 75@0,00, 3d do $4 00@5,00.

WORKING OXEN—$100, $115@$130.

MILCH COWS—$47@49; common, $19@20.

VEAL CALVES—$5,00@8,00.

STORES—Yearlings, $0@0, two years old, $10@17; three years old, $18@19.

HIDES—4½@5c ₰ lb.

CALF SKINS—10@11c ₰ lb.

TALLOW—6½@7c. ₰ lb.

PELTS—50c@$1,25 each.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,50@1,75, extra, $2,00@5,50.

SWINE—Store, wholesale, 6@7c, retail, 6@8c. Fat Hogs, still fed, 4½c, corn fed, 5½c. Spring Pigs, 10@11c.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, May 9.—The market is inactive for nearly all kinds. Very fine are comparatively neglected. A fair demand prevails for low medium suitable for army clothing. We notice sales of 16 bales Cape No 1 Pulled at 25c, 674 lbs Spanish at 15c, 2,000 lbs of Australian on private terms, 75 bales of Cape at 26@29c, 4,000 lbs fleece low medium at 35c.

American Saxony Fleece, ₰ lb,	50@55
American full-blood Merino,	45@48
American half blood and three-fourths Merino,	38@42
American Native and one-fourth Merino,	30@34
Extra Pulled,	36@40
Superfine, Pulled,	30@35
No. 1, Pulled,	23@25
Lamb's, Pulled,	27@30
California, extra,	00@00
California, fine, unwashed,	24@33
California, common do,	10@13
Peruvian, washed,	25@30
Valparaiso, unwashed,	12@13
South American Mes., unwashed,	10@23
South American Merino, unwashed,	23@26
South American, common washed,	10@13
South American Entre Rios, do,	15@18
South American, unwashed,	9@10
South American Cordova, washed,	20½@22
Cape Good Hope unwashed,	25@28
East India, washed,	12@25
African, unwashed,	9@18
African, washed,	16@26
Smyrna, unwashed,	11@18
Smyrna, washed,	22@33
Mexican unwashed,	11@14

BOSTON, May 8.—The demand for the common and medium grades of domestic wools has been fair, and the market is steady. Sales of 125,000 lbs at previous prices. In foreign, sales of 150 bales Mediterranean and Cape, at various prices, as to quality.

Saxony and Merino, fine,	47@55	Western mixed,	20@30
Full blood,	44@47	Smyrna, washed,	15@26
½ and ¾ blood,	35@43	Do. unwashed,	9@17
Common,	31@33	Syrian,	10@23
Pulled, extra,	38@45	Cape,	19@30
Do Superfine,	28@39	Crimea,	9@17
Do No 1,	20@28	Buenos Ayres,	9@45
Do. No 2,	16@20	Peruvian, washed,	20@30

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

☞ Its immense circulation among the Producers and Dealers of the Free States, renders the RURAL NEW-YORKER by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its class. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, &c., who must necessarily depend upon the People of the North for patronage.

WANTED BY A LADY—A situation in a School or family, to Teach Music on the PIANO. Would also Teach English branches if desired. Has had some experience in teaching, and can present satisfactory testimonials. Address N. M. O., Poughkeepsie, N Y

THE LATEST NEWS!—THE DAILY EXPRESS.—Every one in these exciting times wants a Daily paper. The "ROCHESTER EVENING EXPRESS" contains *all* the *Latest News from the War.* Terms only $4 a year, or *three months* for only *One Dollar.* Try it. Address C. D. TRACY & CO., Rochester, N. Y.

ALDEN'S PATENT THILL HORSE-HOE.

This valuable implement has been extensively manufactured to supply the anticipated demand the present season, and is sold at wholesale or retail by the undersigned. It is also for sale by many Implement Dealers throughout the country.

☞ See extended advertisement in RURAL of April 27.

M. ALDEN & CO.,
Manufacturers and Dealers in Agricultural Implements,
AUBURN, N. Y.

☞ For sale in Rochester by J. RAPALJE, at the Genesee Seed Store, 17 South St. Paul St.

BAXTER'S VOLUNTEER'S MANUAL.

THE latest and best military work published, containing
Full Instructions for the Recruit,
Arranged according to
Scott's System of Military Tactics,
Illustrated with OVER ONE HUNDRED ENGRAVINGS.
One Volume 12mo., 83 pages. Price, 25 Cents.
THE SAME WORK IN THE GERMAN LANGUAGE.
Price, Twenty-Five Cents.

☞ Copies of the Books will be mailed, free of postage, upon receipt of the price, by addressing
KING & BAIRD,
Printers and Publishers,
592-3t No. 607 Sansom, St., Philadelphia.

I WANT 100 SMART MEN (unemployed,) to sell WAR BOOKS! Sure to sell fast, and large profit given. Address, GEO. EDWARD SEARS,
591-2t 181 William Street, New York.

NANSEMOND SWEET POTATO PLANTS of superior quality, as heretofore, packed to go safely long distances, 400 $1, 1,000, $2, 5,000, $9, 10,000, $15—during May and June. Our plants have given general satisfaction in the Northern States, in years past, and we solicit an extension of patronage. ☞ Send stamp for Circular.
591-2t C. B. MURRAY, Foster's Crossings, Warren Co., Ohio.

HOWARD'S NEW MOWER.
PRICE REDUCED FOR 1861.

The Cheapest, most Durable, and Lightest Draft Mower offered for sale. Four sizes—$70, $85 and $100 each. All are warranted. Can give the testimonials of those who have used them, if desired. Send for Circular giving full description.

Ketchum's Combined Machine,

Improved, price, as usual, $130. Improvements of guards, shoe with roller, lever with roller, and extras for the KETCHUM Machine, furnished at moderate prices, by giving the number of the Machine for which they are wanted. 591-9t
Address R. L. HOWARD, Buffalo, N. Y.

ATTENTION! BEE-KEEPERS.—Kidder's new system of Bee Management, whereby a swarm of Bees will collect from one to three hundred pounds of honey in one season. Bees can be made to swarm any season, or prevented from doing so. Can be prevented from flying to the forests in swarming-time. Bee-robbery easily prevented. Moth millers prevented effectually. Never lose bees by the chill of winter or otherwise.

I will send my new Book Circular free of postage to any Bee-Keeper, if they will send me their name and Post-Office address, containing 32 pages, giving general explanations of the Patent Compound Bee-Hive, contents of Book, &c.

Or, I will send Kidder's Guide to Apiarian Science, a work of 178 pages, free, by mail, on the receipt of 57 cents, in postage stamps, or two books for one dollar, which will give full particulars in any department of Bee-Culture. All orders addressed to [591-tf] K. P. KIDDER, Burlington, Vt.

20 PAPERS FLOWER SEED FOR $1.—I will send by mail, post paid, twenty papers of Choice Flower Seeds to any person sending me One Dollar current funds.

My Seeds are just as good as those advertised at double the price I ask. My Seeds are imported from one of the best seed houses in Europe, and can be relied on as good.
J. RAPALJE, at Genesee Seed Store, Rochester, N. Y.

OHIO MOWER and REAPER.
E. BALL'S PATENTS,
WITH FOLDING CUTTER BAR.

A Machine that is a perfect *Mower*, and a perfect *Reaper*. Circulars with full description sent by mail or furnished by agents in each county. ROSS, DODGE & POMROY,
588-15t Manufacturers, at the Auburn Prison, Auburn, N. Y.

BUCKEYE MOWER
AND REAPER,
WITH FLEXIBLE FOLDING BAR,
THE ONLY MACHINE WHICH COMBINES ALL THE REQUISITES OF A PERFECT HARVESTER.

Farmers wishing to avoid disappointment, will give their orders early in the season.

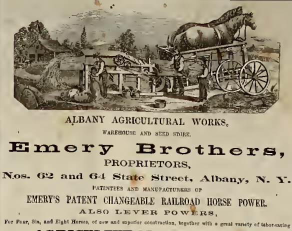
☞ Circulars with full description and testimonials forwarded by mail.

JOHN P. ADRIANCE, Manufacturer and Proprietor,
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK,
Sole Warehouse in New York, 165 Greenwich Street,
587-7t Near Courtlandt.

MALTBY & ARMITAGE, Agents, Verona, Oneida Co., N. Y.
YALE NORTHRUP, Agent, Smyrna, Chenango Co., N. Y.
JOSEPH JULIAND, 2d, " Bainbridge, Chenango Co., N. Y.
A. F. BRAYTON & SON, Agents, Watertown, Jeff Co., N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED to SELL FRUIT TREES. We wish to employ a number of experienced and trustworthy men to sell trees, &c., from our Nurseries at liberal wages.

WHOLESALE DEALERS furnished with Nursery, Stock of all descriptions at the *lowest wholesale rates.*
HOOKER, FARLEY & CO.,
534tf Rochester Wholesale Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.



ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORKS,
WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.
Emery Brothers,
PROPRIETORS,
Nos. 62 and 64 State Street, Albany, N. Y.
PATENTEES AND MANUFACTURERS OF
EMERY'S PATENT CHANGEABLE RAILROAD HORSE POWER.
ALSO LEVER POWERS,
For Four, Six, and Eight Horses, of new and superior construction, together with a great variety of labor-saving
AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.
ALSO
GENERAL DEALERS IN IMPLEMENTS AND SEED.

HORSE POWERS.

IT has ever been the aim of the proprietors to make none but the first class of work, and always use the best materials and workmanship. In the construction of their Horse Powers they have endeavored to adapt them most readily and advantageously to the great variety of purposes required by the Farmer and Mechanic. The same considerations have guided them in the construction and adaptation of the various Machines made and sold by them, and to be driven by the power, in calculating their various velocities, forces, pulleys and gears, required to enable them to operate in their maximum efficiency, which is the great secret of their success.

THRASHING MACHINES
WITH
SEPARATING AND CLEANING ATTACHMENT.

Combined and adapted for all kinds and conditions of grain, &c., &c.

This machine is the greatest success in its line yet produced. It can be operated with two horses as easily, and with equal results, as the ordinary thrashing machine without the cleaning attachment, while its capacity adapts it equally well to the force of four or six horses.

It will thrash perfectly clean from the straw, and clean the grain for market without any wastage in any part of the process.

It is complete in one frame. Very compact and simple—runs light, still, and without any concussion from its moving parts. It has been very extensively used during the past two harvests, and its superiority over any others in market established beyond question, and considering its capacity and cost of construction, it is at least fifty per cent cheaper than any other similar machine in use.

CLOVER MILLS AND CLEANERS.

This is a new Machine comparatively, and is believed to be one of the best Machines for the purpose ever made, can be driven by one, two, or more horses, at a high or slow velocity, and do equally good work, and with wet and bad, as well as good condition, of the clover chaff. It cleans the seed and delivers it fit for market at the same operation.

STALK AND STRAW CUTTERS

For Horse Power,—a strong and durable Machine, and adjustable to any length of cut.

SAWING MILLS,

With Circular Saws for Cutting Fire-wood, Slitting Boards, Plank, &c., for fencing and building purposes, also with Machine Cross-cut for cutting Logs for Wood, Shingles, Staves, &c., also Mills for making Shingles.

FEED MILLS

For Grinding all kinds of Grain for Feeding, as well as corn in the ear when desired. Several sizes, and with or without Sieves and Bolts attached.

CIDER MILLS

For Power and Hand use, with and without Press attached. These Mills and Presses are of a superior style and utility to any others in use.

COTTON GINS,
WITH
COTTON LINT CLEANER AND CONDENSER.

Cotton Gins with improved Feeding Hoppers, with 30 to 100 Saws, calculated for one to eight horses. These are superior in finish and adaptation to the wants of the Cotton Grower, to anything of the kind before offered to the public.

The Lint Condenser is an attachment suited to any ordinary Cotton Gin. It receives the lint as it is discharged from the gin, condenses it and delivers it compact, ready for the press at one and the same operation, and at the same operation cleanses it from all earthy matter, as sand, dust, &c. It dispenses with the necessity of any lint room and large buildings, as the Gin may be equally as advantageously used in the field as the grain thrasher, and when used in buildings it requires no more additional room than the size of the Gin itself occupies. It is also a perfect safeguard against fire, as it is impossible for burning lint to pass through the machine without the fire being extinguished in its passage, thus making this Cotton Gin with its condenser fire-proof. They have been extensively used in Georgia the past two crops and the cotton made by them has commanded an advanced price over that ginned by the best machines in use.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

Constantly on hand, embracing a large and selected assortment of Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Dog Powers, Churns, Cheese Presses, also Forks, Hoes, Shovels, &c., always on hand at the lowest manufacturer's terms.

ILLUMINATED CATALOGUE.

The Proprietors have completed their new Catalogue, the most complete and beautifully illustrated work ever published by any manufacturer, embracing a great number and variety of finely executed and carefully prepared

ILLUSTRATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS,

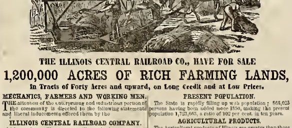
together with ample references and indexes, as well as the Prices, Terms of Sale, Weight, Cubic Measurements, Capacity, Directions for use, Durability and Warranty of their

MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS, AND SEEDS.

On receipt of three cents in stamps to prepay postage, it will be sent to all applicants. Local Agencies solicited for the sale of the above Machines.

EMERY BROTHERS,
Nos. 62 & 64 State Street, Albany, N Y

Homes for the Industrious!
IN THE
GARDEN STATE OF THE WEST.



THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO., HAVE FOR SALE
1,200,000 ACRES OF RICH FARMING LANDS,
In Tracts of Forty Acres and upward, on Long Credit and at Low Prices.

MECHANICS, FARMERS AND WORKING MEN.

THE attention of the enterprising and industrious portion of the community is directed to the following statements and liberal inducements offered them by the

ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY,

which, as they will perceive, will enable them by proper energy, perseverance and industry, to provide comfortable homes for themselves and families, with, comparatively speaking, very little capital.

LANDS OF ILLINOIS.

No State in the Valley of the Mississippi offers so great an inducement as the State of Illinois. There is no portion of the world where all the conditions of climate and soil so admirably combine to produce those two great staples, CORN and WHEAT, as the Prairies of Illinois.

THE SOUTHERN PART

of the State lies within the zone of the cotton regions, while the soil is admirably adapted to the growth of tobacco and hemp; and the wheat is worth from fifteen to twenty cents more per bushel than that raised further north.

RICH ROLLING PRAIRIE LANDS.

The deep rich loam of the prairies is cultivated with such wonderful facility that the farmers of the Eastern and Middle States are moving to Illinois in great numbers. The area of Illinois is about equal to that of England, and the soil is so rich that it will support twenty millions of people.

EASTERN AND SOUTHERN MARKETS.

These lands are contiguous to a railroad 700 miles in length, which connects with other roads and navigable lakes and rivers, thus affording an unbroken communication with the Eastern and Southern markets.

APPLICATION OF CAPITAL.

Thus far, capital and labor have been applied to developing the soil; the great resources of the State in coal and iron are almost untouched. The invariable rule that the mechanical arts flourish best where food and fuel are cheapest, will follow at an early day in Illinois, and in the course of the next ten years the natural laws and necessities of the case warrant the belief that at least five hundred thousand people will be engaged in the State of Illinois in various manufacturing pursuits.

RAILROAD SYSTEM OF ILLINOIS.

Over $100,000,000 of private capital have been expended on the railways of Illinois. Inasmuch as part of the income from several these works, with a valuable public fund in lands, go to diminish the State expenses, the TAXES ARE LIGHT, and must consequently every day decrease.

THE STATE DEBT.

The State Debt is only $10,105,398, 14, and within the last three years has been reduced $2,959,746 80, and we may reasonably expect that in ten years it will become extinct.

PRESENT POPULATION.

The State is rapidly filling up with population; 868,025 persons having been added since 1850, making the present population 1,723,663, a ratio of 102 per cent. in ten years.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

The Agricultural products of Illinois are greater than those of any other State. The products sent out during the past year exceeded 1,500,000 tons. The wheat crop of 1860 approaches 35,000,000 bushels, while the corn crop yields not less than 140,000 000 bushels.

FERTILITY OF THE SOIL.

Nowhere can the industrious farmer secure such immediate results for his labor as upon these prairie soils, they being composed of a deep rich loam, the fertility of which, is unsurpassed by any on the globe.

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Rochester, Feb. 14, 1861. 580-tf

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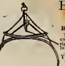

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[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

THE COMING OF SPRING.

Hark to the sound of the swelling breeze
As it spreads its airy wing;
'Tis a joyous sound—a welcome sound—
For it speaks the coming spring.

List, list to the song of the trembling leaves
In the old ancestral pine;
They have heard the wind's prophetic tale,
And they join the welcome chime.

The merry lay of the gliding stream
Just broke from th' Frost-King's spell,
Proclaims the reign of the winter o'er
In the woodland and the dell.

The stars look down from the ether blue
With a gentler, sweeter light;
And the moon, with milder radiance, beams
On the brow of the dewy night.

The woods are bare, and the night wind still
Moans cold and fitfully by,
Yet the heralds announce their patron queen
From air, and earth, and sky.

Her smile is in the sunny South,
Her voice in the lowly vale,
Her step within the echoing wood,
And her breath upon the gale.

Milwaukee Co., Wis., 1861. BERNICE.

The Story-Teller.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

ROMANCE AND REALITY.

BY BELLE V. HOWARD.

"What nonsense!" said Willis Raymond, carelessly flinging the magazine he had been reading, to the table, and taking up his cousin's work-box, he commenced an investigation of its contents that threatened infinite peril to their accustomed good order.

"What is nonsense, may I ask?" said Minnie, looking up from her knitting with a gleam of mischief in her blue eyes, as they rested on her cousin's face.

"This everlasting talk about love and matrimony," replied he. "One cannot take up a book, or go a step in any direction, without running against some of the detestable trash. It's disgusting to a sensible mind."

"It ought not to affect yours very seriously, then," retorted Minnie. "But, Will, don't you believe there is such a thing as love?"

"Love! no,—at least not in this age of the world. It was very well to talk of it when our respected ever-so-great-grand parents walked in the garden of Eden, and Adam had no tailor's nor milliner's bills to foot, but in these latter degenerate days, matrimony, as a wiser man than I has said, has become a mere 'matter o' money,' and love is 'all in your mind's eye,' Minnie."

"You would rob life of all its poetry and beauty, cousin," said Minnie.

"Small loss that would be. What is poetry but the stuff that dreams are made of? Strip it of its illusions and you will find the coldest, most common prose at the bottom."

"I don't believe you are in earnest, Will," said Minnie. "Do *you* see no poetry in Nature,—no beauty in yonder blue sky with fleets of snowy clouds sailing on its clear bosom? Is there nothing grand in such a glorious sunset as we saw last night, when the golden west blazed in crimson and purple,—or in our starry midnight skies, or dewy mornings, flower-crowned, and diamond-gemmed? Do you glance only with the eye of speculation at the grand old woods, with their dim forest paths, where pale, sweet wild flowers wave in the summer wind, and the air is ringing with the music of the birds—"

"And of the mosquitoes," suggested Will.

"You are incorrigible!" exclaimed Minnie. "I'll not waste any more words on you."

"Excuse me, coz.," said Willis, "but you are altogether too enthusiastic. A few more years will give you experience, and you will see things in their true light," and he patronizingly stroked his moustache, looking as profound as if the wisdom of a Solomon were his. Minnie laughed in spite of her vexation.

"As many as have passed over *your* ancient head, Sir Oracle? Never mind! I shall see you the bound slave of the little blind god yet,

> 'Sighing like a furnace, with a woeful ballad
> Made to your mistress' eye brow,'

and talking poetry and romantic nonsense enough to fill a three volume novel."

"Never!" exclaimed Will, indignantly.

"Ah! just wait till your time comes, and you are captivated by a pair of sparkling eyes, or a cheek with the hue of—"

"Prepared chalk and French rouge."

"Precisely,—and see you die of a broken heart when your lady-love finds out what an impertinent fellow you are, and, to use a classical figure, gives you the mitten."

"That's another popular fiction, Minnie. Hearts are made of tougher materials than most people imagine."

"I know it. Masculine ones, especially, are as elastic as a politician's principles. Well, then, if you won't die for love, you'll probably 'leave your country for your country's good,' and emigrate to some more congenial clime, where hearts are to be had for the asking."

"Probably. But, seriously, Minnie, you never need fear that I shall put my neck into the noose matrimonial. I never saw the pair of feminine lips yet that had the attractions for my own that a good Havana cigar has, nor shall I."

"Well, if you are in earnest, all I have to say is that I hope you'll die an old bachelor; that is the worst wish I can make for you."

Just then the supper bell rang, and the disputants were obliged to give a truce to discussion for that time.

Willis Raymond had just left college, where he had graduated with some honor, and with all the wisdom and experience, real or fancied, which twenty-two years had given him, was preparing to commence life. He was the child of rich, but respectable parents, and not being necessitated to exert the talents which he really possessed, the chances that he would become an energetic, *manly* man, were not much in his favor. Like most of the "lords of creation," he was sufficiently egotistical, and really imagined that none of the daughters of Eve possessed charms powerful enough to withdraw his allegiance from the one whose manifold perfections were the objects of his admiration, *i. e.*, himself. Still, he was endowed with many good qualities, which would have made themselves more conspicuous had his position in life been one better fitted for their cultivation.

A short time after the conversation above reported, he entered the office of a distinguished lawyer in his native city, purposing to make law his study, but his cousin Minnie declared her suspicions to be, that Coke and Blackstone did not suffer much in his hands, inasmuch as whenever she went to the city she was sure to see him either trying the speed of his black pony, "Telegraph," at the rate of "2.40" or less, to the manifest terror of all the old women and children who happened to be on the crossings at the time of his passage; or sauntering along the streets with some of his companions who were equally industrious with himself; or, if he happened to be in the office,—she always saw him with his chair tipped comfortably back at an angle of forty-five degrees, his feet on the window sill, and himself busily perusing the columns of a newspaper. He never denied her charges, but always laughed, and said that he saw no particular necessity of his fatiguing himself with study.

Meantime, Summer waned, and Autumn, crowned with golden wheat-ears and clusters of purple grapes, followed her queenly sister with her burden of fruits and garlands of many-hued forest leaves, while Winter came, bearing a snowy winding sheet for the dead year's burial. One bright afternoon, when the sky seemed as blue as in June, and the snow gleamed with tenfold whiteness in the golden sunshine, Willis concluded that it would be a waste of time for him to spend *such* hours in a dingy office, and left the city for his uncle's, who lived a few miles away. As he left the well worn streets of the city, and was speeding along through the pure country air, his attention was attracted to an object which lay in the road just ahead of him. As he drew near, he checked his horse, and alighting, picked up a small book, neatly bound, which, as he glanced into it, he found to be filled with writing in a delicate, feminine hand. He placed it in the pocket of his overcoat, and went on his way. Something, he could not have told what, prevented him from showing his new acquisition to his cousin Minnie, on arriving at the place of his destination, as his first impulse prompted him to do, but that night, when he was alone, he drew his chair up beside the fire, and prepared to examine it.

He found the book to be a journal, with "Jessie Stanton," inscribed on the first blank leaf. He glanced carelessly over the first few pages, but he soon became interested, and the "wee small hours" found him still deeply engaged in the perusal. When he finally arose, it was with a more thoughtful brow than he usually wore. He had been granted a privilege which is seldom bestowed upon any one,—a sight into the inmost recesses of a young girl's pure heart, and chords had been touched in his own soul that had seldom been struck since his angel mother, long years before, had placed her thin hand upon his boyish brow, and in broken words breathed a blessing upon her child, ere she followed the silent footsteps of the white-robed Angel of Death over the dark river which all must cross.

He had read in that little book a story of trials patiently borne, and of obstacles overcome, and each page bore the impress of an energetic, aspiring mind, but still pure and womanly, and of a cultivated intellect which had strown gems of poetic thought over every leaf. "I must know her!" was his involuntary exclamation; "such a mind is worth a score of the fashionable husband-hunters whom one meets in society," and with this resolution, he departed to the land of dreams.

The next morning Minnie rallied him unmercifully for his abstractedness, but he repelled her assaults with some light answer, and soon put in a plea of important business in the city which hastened his departure. He had an object before him now, neither more or less than the discovery of the fair unknown, and though at the first glance the search might bid fair to prove a hopeless one, yet he felt confident of success. All that he had for his guide was her name, and the knowledge that she resided in the same city where was his own home, and with this he sat himself to work. *Why* he wished to know who "Jessie" was, he probably could not have told, himself. If any one had asked him, he would have called his motive simple curiosity,—and *perhaps* it was.

Meanwhile his success did not seem likely to prove a brilliant one, after all. Several times he thought himself on the verge of discovery, but his expectations were always shattered before they became certainty. One Mr. Stanton whom he found, was a second class merchant, with but one unmarried daughter, who was a maiden lady of a decidedly uncertain age, with brilliant red hair and a freckled face, while on investigation her name proved to be Mehitable. Another gentleman bearing the same cognomen was a cross-eyed tailor, with an interesting family of six small, white-headed children,—free soilers, evidently, judging from the appearance of their faces and clothes.

At length, after two or three months had passed, he almost began to despair of succeeding in his object, although, with the true masculine spirit, his determination had grown the stronger from the obstacles with which he had met, till one day, being with Minnie, he made a full confession to her, for although he dreaded her satirical remarks as much as he feared anything, yet he felt the necessity of confiding his troubles to some one. Minnie's merriment was unbounded when she heard Will's story, and if he had expected to be well-laughed at, he was in no wise disappointed; but when her mirth had somewhat subsided, she promised him that if she should ever be so fortunate as to become acquainted with the whereabouts of the young lady in question, she would lose no time in informing him of the fact.

Weeks passed, and one day, when Will was making his accustomed weekly visit to his uncle's, Minnie met him with rather more mischief than usual sparkling in her eyes, and said,

"I have something to tell you, Will."

"What is it?" said he, eagerly.

"Oh, concerning the subject nearest your heart; you know what that is, of course, as well as I."

"Have you heard of 'Jessie'?" queried he, earnestly.

"Ah, you 'own up,' do you? Well, who would have thought that such a professed woman-hater as yourself would have been conquered so easily?"

"Nonsense, Minnie, don't be such a simpleton; what were you going to tell me?"

"Well, really, I don't know that I had better tell you at all. I have my doubts about it being right to encourage such detestable trash as love, etc."

"Oh, cousin, don't keep a fellow in suspense in that style. I'll never tell you anything again in the world, if you act so."

"Just as if you could help it!" said Minnie, laughing. "But I've only something for you to read, after all," and she handed him a newspaper, pointing out a poem on the first page. He looked at the author's name, "Jessie Stanton," and then read every line, carefully. The style was identical with the one that he had become so familiar with, and hope arose once more in his heart, as he perused it, though Minnie told him that he would probably find the authoress to be either the ancient Mehitable or the tailor's wife.

The editor of the paper happened to be an acquaintance of his, and the next morning he made him a very disinterested call, and in the course of conversation, inquired concerning the whereabouts of some of the contributors of the paper, Miss Stanton's among the rest. Armed with her address, he started once more on an exploring expedition.

His directions led him to the outskirts of the city, and to a little brown cottage which he found nestled down under the protecting branches of grand old trees, and in a perfect wilderness of vines and shrubbery, just beginning to show the hues of spring. His ring at the bell was answered by a little rosy-cheeked lassie, and he was ushered into a small, low parlor, plainly furnished, but filled with books and pictures, which had evidently been selected by some one of good taste in such matters. The white curtains were gracefully looped back from the windows, and on the table stood a vase filled with delicate spring flowers, which filled the room with their faint, sweet perfume.

All these things Will had time to note before the door was gently unclosed, and the young lady whose presence he sought, stood before him. He made as good a use of his eyes as politeness would allow, and this was what he saw:—A slender, youthful figure, a wealth of brown hair lying smoothly over a white, intellectual brow, cheeks where the lily dwelt, rather than the rose, and clear, calm, dark eyes, from whence looked out a pure and truthful soul. Her dress was a morning robe of plain, dark material, but a duchess could not have worn velvet and diamonds more gracefully than did she her simple garb. She listened with surprise as Will unfolded his errand, and a faint flush crept over her face as he produced the carefully kept journal, which she recognized as her own, and explained that she had lost it while returning from a visit of a few week's duration, to a friend. Will manufactured some harmless fib concerning his having accidentally heard her name mentioned, &c., for which it is to be hoped that he was forgiven. A general conversation ensued on literary and other topics, and Will found her perfectly at home on every subject upon which he touched, and he prolonged his call to a most unetiquettical length, but he finally tore himself away. He made further inquiries about Jessie and her surroundings, and ascertained the following facts:—Her father had been an artist, not blessed with an over-abundance of this world's goods, but happy in the possession of that paradise upon earth,—a pleasant home. But life's battle had proven too hard an one for him to fight, and he passed away, leaving his gentle, loving wife and daughter to face the cold, stern world as best they might. Jessie's mother was a true-hearted woman, quiet and graceful, but not possessing much force of character, and that weakened by the ill health that characterizes American women, so that on Jessie herself had devolved most of the duties which their necessities required to be performed. The little home where they lived was theirs, and that was all. So Jessie betook herself to the school room, as most Yankee girls do under like circumstances; and there, by hard toil, such as is every teacher's lot, earned her daily bread. Of late her pen had added to her resources, and this brings us back to the present time, and to Mr. Will Raymond. There was an inexpressible charm to him in Jessie's quiet, graceful manner, and her sensible conversation contrasted favorably with the fashionable nonsense which he was accustomed to hear from the lips of fashionable young ladies who sought the light of his smiles, and he determined to pursue the acquaintance thus commenced. This was not difficult; an excuse was easily found for another call, and after that, the pleasant evenings of spring and summer often found him at the little brown cottage, with a new book or magazine, or the latest piece of music, for Jessie.

As for Jessie, she kept her own counsel concerning the state of her mind on the subject, and we shall not betray her. Will certainly could make himself very agreeable when he chose; and eighteen and twenty-two are very dangerous ages for two young people who are much in each other's society, if there is the slightest degree of congeniality between them.

It was not long before Will could not disguise the fact from himself that it was more than friendship which he felt for Jessie, and that life's path would be a dark one to him without her presence. It was one of those delicious summer evenings, when the air was heavy with the rich perfume of a thousand flowers, and all the wandering breezes seemed to lie asleep while the stars looked down from out the far-off heaven with calm and holy glances,—a night which made one think of what Paradise must have been in those fair days when the world was young. Will and Jessie had sat in the vine-wreathed piazza, watching the sun as it sank to its rest in a blaze of glory, and then the purple twilight as it came over the earth and deepened into night, while the bright stars came out one by one. They had been discussing various topics, but now sat in silence in the gathering gloom,—a silence that was more expressive than words, and Jessie's cheek bore a deeper flush, if one could have seen it, as Will changed his seat for one nearer to her, and in a few low, earnest words, such as those always are that come from the heart, he told her of his love, and awaited her reply.

She sat for a few moments in silence, and then spoke in the same firm, clear tones that always characterized her.

"I will not deny that what you have just said finds a response in my own heart, and yet, Will, I cannot return your love now."

"And why?" said he, earnestly.

"This is why," was her answer:—"You are a man, and have a man's work to do in this world, where there is so much to be done, but have you accomplished that which you might with the talents God has given you? Have you improved as you should that glorious birthright which is 'yours,—every man's?'"

There was a flush,—it might have been of anger,—on Will's brow, as he interrupted her.

"You are unjust to me, Jessie."

"No, not unjust,—I should be no friend of yours did I not speak so to you. No man can win my heart wholly who is not a true, earnest worker, doing that which he may to further the cause of human rights, and taking an active part in the great battle of life. Do this, Will, and you have the power to do it nobly; and then, if your heart has not changed, come to me again as you came to-night, and I will not say you 'no.'"

Will made no answer, and she arose and placing her small, white hand on his shoulder, said, "You are angry with me now, perhaps, but think of what I have said, and remember that it was true friendship that dictated it."

Will's only reply was a low, "Good night, Jessie," and he was gone. Jessie stood listening to the sound of his retreating footsteps till she could distinguish them no longer, and there was something very much like a tear in her eye, as she entered the house, though she was conscious that she had done no more than her duty. Meanwhile Will's thoughts were not of a very pleasant character. At first he was angry, but anger soon gave way to other feelings. He saw, as he had never done before, how he had wasted the years of his youth thus far, and with the thought came earnest resolutions for the future.

A few days after, Jessie received a note from him, which ran thus:

"You were right, Jessie, and I was wrong. My life *has* been worse than wasted, but it shall not be so in the future. I shall leave here in a few days for the 'far west,' and when I have made myself more worthy of you, you shall see me again, and not till then.
WILL."

And so she saw him no more. His was a changed life, and those who had known the idle Willis Raymond, of former days, would hardly have recognized him in the energetic, hard working lawyer of the present. It is true, his path was not an easy one to follow, and he had many a temptation to fall back, but he persevered.

Three years from that time saw him the Prosecuting Attorney of the flourishing little western city which he called his home, and none had brighter prospects for the future than he. It was not long from this time before he returned to his former residence and paid a visit to the little brown cottage, and this time Jessie *did not* say "no."

There was a happy party gathered together on a pleasant autumn evening in Jessie's home, when she made her appearance in white satin, lace, and other bridal paraphernalia, while Will figured as a most contented looking bridegroom. Cousin Minnie was there, too, with her old saucy smile on her lips, attended by her own "bigger half," a grave and sedate M. D.

Once during the evening, as she came upon Will seated in a corner quietly talking with Jessie, she gave him a quizzical look, and said,

"Well, Will, you do look as if there was such a thing as love in these degenerate days, after all."

"Yes, Minnie, put me down as a convert to your creed. There is some romance left in the world yet, and love *has* a power in the affairs of men,—for it has changed the current of my life."

"There was need enough of a reformation, wasn't there?" replied she. "But who would have thought to have seen *your* neck in the noose matrimonial?"

"Well, cousin, I can only say as did Benedick of old, 'When I said I would die a bachelor, I did not think I should live till I were married.'"

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

BIOGRAPHICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 19 letters.

My 11, 3, 8, 10 was an eminent English judge.

My 12, 3, 7, 7, 14 was an Italian poet.

My 3, 8, 17, 18, 4 was a gallant United States officer.

My 1, 3, 2, 10, 4, 11, 18, 6, 10 was the inventor of the Thermometer.

My 10, 18, 7, 7, 4, 19, 2 was an eminent German philologist.

My 16, 7, 7, 8, 3, 4 was an ancient Gaelic poet.

My 8, 10, 18 was a distinguished American general.

My 5, 3, 4, 4, 9, 4, 10 was an eminent English statesman.

My 10, 3, 7, 5, 15, 6, 10, 4, 19 was an eminent English lawyer and judge.

My whole was the name of a distinguished American patriot.

Glendale, Ohio, 1861. JER. M COCHRAN.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A QUEER CHARADE.

My first is a kind of garden fruit.
My second is a part of the human body.
My third is a large body of water.
My fourth is principally raised in China.
My fifth is an interjection.
My sixth is the plural of is.
My seventh is myself.
My eighth means forever.
My ninth is a measure of cloth.
My whole is illustrated.

Rockford, Ill., 1861. E W HICKS.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

A RIDDLE.

What force or strength cannot get through,
I with a gentle touch can do;
And many in the street would stand,
Were I not as a friend at hand.

Palermo, N. Y., 1861. WILLIS BARTLETT.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Required, the greatest number of trees that can be placed on a piece of land eleven rods square, the trees being in distance one rod apart each way, allowing no space for the size of the trees.

Panama, N. Y., 1861. FRANCIS.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 590.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigma.—Stand by the Constitution and the Laws.

Answer to the Diamond Cross Puzzle:—He moved the transverse piece one diamond further up, then removed one diamond from each end of the transverse section.

Answer to Puzzle of the Stars:

> Good-tempered friends, here *nine* stars see,
> *Ten* rows there are, in each row *three*.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
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Signatures from many cities and towns not fully represented in this list will appear in a future advertisement.

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